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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXIX, No. 1

Section 1

April 1, 1938

URGES AID FOR RURAL CHILDREN      The nation must assume responsibility for the health and education of rural children because of our increasing dependence upon the rural areas for our future population, Professor Robert E. Chaddock of Columbia University declared yesterday at the annual conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund. "As a result of the dual circumstances of low birth rates in cities and the restriction of immigration, our urban communities must depend more and more upon the farms of the country for their population renewals," Doctor Chaddock said. "The nation's new citizens are being heavily recruited from those sections of the population least able to provide for the adequate diet, medical care and education of their children." Citing reports of the high birth rates in the poorer rural areas in the South, Doctor Chaddock held that "the economic conditions of the South are increasingly the concern of the nation, and there is a whole array of economic factors demanding nationally integrated attack." (New York Times.)

"SYNTHETIC HUMAN"

"The development for the first time of a synthetic human guinea pig, which responds to infections due to bacteria and viruses in a manner closely parallel to a living human being makes it possible to study at first hand a number of serious human diseases that could not be produced in laboratory animals, was reported at Baltimore yesterday, before the annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology," says William L. Laurence, in the New York Times. "The 'synthetic human' is a chicken embryo upon which human tissue has been grafted. It was made possible by the discovery, regarded as one of the most significant in physiological research of recent years, that human tissue, such as skin, can be grafted into chick embryos in such a manner that the tissues not only survive, but can be infected with bacteria and viruses that attack only human beings. When such infections are produced, it was found, the human tissues assume the same characteristic picture of the disease developed by the same micro-organisms in living human beings. The 'synthetic human' was described by Dr. Ernest W. Goodpasture, Professor of Pathology at Vanderbilt University Medical School, Nashville, Tennessee...."

WOOL LABEL DISCUSSION

Arthur Besse of the National Association of Woolen Manufacturers told a Senate Interstate Commerce subcommittee yesterday, proposed legislation to require labeling of wool fabric contents would hamper the sale of wool products. Mr. Besse predicted the legislation would result in an increase in imports of part wool fabrics and the displacement of domestic part wool products by rayon or other materials. He added it would encourage the retailer to sell other materials. J. B. Wilson, representing the National Association of Wool Growers, urged approval of the measure. (Associated Press.)

April 1, 1938

Pellagra Aid, Nicotinic acid, which within the last few months has  
Rural South been found of great therapeutic value in the treatment of  
Discussed pellagra, is now being produced chemically at a very low  
cost, which will make it additionally useful in fighting  
what is often known as "the poor man's disease," it was reported recently  
at the New York Academy of Medicine. Dr. Tom D. Spies of the University  
of Cincinnati College of Medicine, one of the innovators in developing  
the treatment, reported to the round table on public health and nutrition  
problems that controlled experiments on sufferers from the disease since  
last September have proved that nicotinic acid has definitely beneficial  
results. Pellagra, which attacks about 400,000 persons annually and fre-  
quently results in death or insanity, is especially prevalent among indi-  
viduals who from ignorance or poverty fail to consume proper quantities  
of meat, milk, eggs, liver and yeast, which contain nicotinic acid, Dr.  
Spies said. The artificial production of the substance so cheaply will  
make it available for treatment of many cases. Dr. Carl C. Taylor of the  
Department of Agriculture recommended a four-point program for the re-  
habilitation of southern rural areas calling for the development of a  
balanced system of agriculture, development of means of manufacturing and  
fabricating in the South the raw materials produced there, establishment  
of a system of part-time agriculture and part-time industry, and a reloca-  
tion policy for moving the population of low economic areas to regions  
offering greater opportunities.. (New York Times.)

Backyard The Wichita (Kansas) Beacon (March 23) says that as  
Game Farms the first major step in a statewide conservation educa-  
tional program, Prof. Roy Wall, newly-appointed forestry,  
fish and game commissioner, has announced the launching of a "backyard game  
farm" project. "The state department," Commissioner Wall stated, "will  
encourage 4-H clubs, other similar groups and all farmers and sportsmen  
to raise pheasant, quail, prairie chicken and chukar partridge in these  
backyard game farms..." While the state is not now in a position to fur-  
nish brood stock, the new commissioner pointed out, the department will  
pay 50 cents per bird for healthy specimens liberated to wild cover under  
the supervision of the commission or its representatives, the game war-  
dens of the state. The "backyard game farms", he said, will be centered  
about Kansas 4-H clubs.

Vegetable Planted acreages of early vegetables and prospective  
Outlook acreages of some intermediate and late crops for market  
indicate an increase of 2 percent in this year's combined  
plantings of 19 major truck crops, but a reduction of about 3 percent in  
the 1938 potato acreage for the country as a whole, according to the  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Indicated increases are particularly  
noticeable for asparagus, beets, carrots, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes.  
In view of the relatively large carry-over stocks of canned vegetables  
and the lower prices this spring, it is likely that less acreage will be  
contracted by canners this season. Allowing for abandonment and average  
yields, the 3-percent smaller acreage of potatoes, the Bureau said, might  
produce a crop of about 345 million bushels or 12 percent less than was  
produced last year.

April 1, 1938

Congress,  
March 30

The conference report on H.R.9915, making several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, was submitted to the Senate. The bill as amended by the conference committee is in the Record (pp. 5755-5757).

The House Select Committee on Government Organization reported with amendment the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (H. Rept. 2033). As reported from the Committee the bill contains the language of the four House reorganization bills. Mr. Lamneck inserted in the Record the original draft of the reorganization bill as prepared by the President's committee and an analysis of the bill (pp. 5762-5771).

The House passed, with amendments, S. J. Res. 277, creating a special joint congressional committee to investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority (pp. 5773-5801).

Bill Introduced in Senate: By Mr. Russell: S. 3753, to amend subsection (e) of section 312 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended; ref. Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

New Farm  
Machinery

"Farm equipment manufacturers trotted out their latest in machines to do farm work better at the farm power equipment show, at Wichita," says Wallaces' Farmer (March 26). "Better materials, lighter weight and rubber tires featured the latest designs in farm tractors. One manufacturer showed a new small diesel powered model that is making a strong appeal on the ground of fuel economy. Manufacturers are keenly interested in the small-farm market, the importance of which was obscured until recently by the demand from larger farms. There is keen rivalry now to supply the forty and eighty-acre farmer with power equipment suited to his needs and to the amount of money he can afford to spend for equipment. At least two manufacturers are offering tractors in the \$495 class, designed to do everything a team of horses can do except eat oats. The new small combines are marvels of compactness and efficiency, and manufacturers hint that these machines, too, may soon be offered in prices and sizes that will bring them within reach of the eighty-acre farmer."

"Red Cap"  
Tomato

A new hybrid tomato believed to be very promising for canning and for market garden because of its earliness and smoothness of fruit has been developed by vegetable crop specialists at the Geneva, New York, station after 10 years' selection and has been named "Red Cap". The new tomato came from a cross between John Baer and Grant and is said to have produced more early fruit than any other desirable canning variety. Twenty-five cent trial packets of the seed are available for gardeners. Reports state that the fruit colors uniformly to the stem with no green spots. Circular cracks are rare, with occasional radial cracks. It is suitable for home, market-garden, and canning because of its earliness, smoothness, size, and uniform red color. (Michigan Farmer, March 26.)

Fertilizers         "The purchase of fertilizers has shown a steady and rapid increase in the Middle West," says an editorial in Prairie Farmer (March 26). "This is chiefly due, not to a decline in general soil fertility, but rather to a better understanding of the need for balancing fertility to suit special needs. Corn, for example, has suffered for years from potash deficiency, but only in recent years has this fact been generally recognized. Hybrid corn, with its tremendous productive capacity, is making a correspondingly great draft on available plant food, and will require addition of fertilizer to keep soil in balance. One of the chief things that proper use of fertilizers can do is to improve the quality of grain, which is one of the surest ways of increasing profits."

Cooperative         Cooperative management of the farm woodlot promises Farm Woodlots increased monetary return while insuring a sustained yield, says Dr. Raphael Zon, director of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station. Dr. Zon based his conclusions on a study made in the vicinity of Yuba, Wisconsin, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin, to determine the possibility of immediately improving income from farm woods. The average income from sale of woodlot products on the farms surveyed now is \$122 a year. Through cooperative management and marketing, Dr. Zon says, the cut would be reduced about twenty percent, to perpetuate the stand, but the income could be increased to \$179. If good cutting practices could be enforced over a considerable period, he adds, the returns per year could be boosted to \$313 for each farmer. (Baltimore Evening Sun, March 25.)

Pullorum         Rebate of \$4666.70 to approximately 300 poultrymen Testing         whose flocks were tested for pullorum disease by the department of bacteriology of the Maine College of Agriculture, is reported by Professor E. R. Hitchner, head of the department. Dr. Hitchner said that the rebate amounted to two cents a bird on flocks above 100 birds, making the net cost of the testing four cents a bird instead of six. Continued increases in volume and efficiency in conducting the test, a service offered to poultrymen at cost, accounts for the rebate. The cost in Maine has dropped from 15 cents a bird in 1921 to the present net cost of four cents. One bird in five tested in 1921 had pullorum disease, while only one-fourth of one percent of the 246,992 birds tested last year were infected. (New England Homestead, March 26.)

(England)

Circular 31         In an article on Flowering Cherries in The Countryman/a Model         April), Dr. J. H. Penham says, "Paul Russell of Washington, whose monograph, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at ten cents, is a model of what can be done by a government department, describes some fifty-six forms, and lists some four hundred names and synonyms in his index." The author suggests that in buying the less common varieties it is well to "visit the nursery in flowering time with Russell's monograph in your pocket."

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Vol. LXIX, No. 2

Section 1

April 4, 1938

**TRADE TREATY PROGRAM** The trade treaty program of Secretary of State Cordell Hull was indorsed yesterday by Raymond Leslie Buell, president of the Foreign Policy Association, and Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of the General Motors Corporation. Buell, in a survey of "The Hull Trade Program and the American System," issued in a World Affairs pamphlet to be published today by the Foreign Policy Association in co-operation with the National Peace Conference, termed the program "a symbol around which those who believe in free enterprise, democracy and peace can and should rally." (Press.)

**INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS** "A world in which national isolation leads only to war was painted at Philadelphia, Friday, as the Academy of Political and Social Science opened its annual meeting," reports Craig Thompson in the New York Times. "Authorities on world affairs, in a round of speeches, made one main point -- the national aims and the international necessities of the nations cannot be made to harmonize....Henry F. Grady, vice chairman of the United States Tariff Commission, praised Secretary Hull's trade treaties, declaring that their effort to break down international barriers to commerce was 'an instrument for peace'".

**THUNDERSTORM PREDICTIONS** Weather research scientists said Saturday that they believed they had found a way to predict thunderstorms twenty-four to thirty-six hours in advance, according to a Cambridge report by the Associated Press. Their progress was reported in the bulletin of the American Meteorological Society by Jerome Namias, research assistant of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The forecasts are based on knowledge of the "flow patterns" of the levels of air in the atmosphere. The chief difficulty, Mr. Namias says, is that weather soundings are taken only once in each twenty-four hours. If they were taken every twelve hours, the predictions could be made considerably more accurate. The research is being carried on at M.I.T. in cooperation with the Weather Bureau.

**JAPANESE TOBACCO** The Japanese tobacco monopoly will not be in the market for American leaf tobacco for the next eighteen months, the Department of Commerce has announced. Size of stocks and restricted consumption were given as the causes. Whether the Japanese Exchange Control Act will permit even the purchase of indicated needs for small lots of American high-grade leaf after that is uncertain, the department said. Meanwhile, exports of Japanese leaf are being restricted to supply domestic needs and those of the conquered Chinese provinces. (Press.)

Chopped Grass for Chicks     "Successful poultry-growers are becoming increasingly interested in feeding large quantities of finely chopped grass to growing chicks," says Loyal F. Payne, Kansas State College, in Successful Farming (April). "Where this practice has been followed consistently, many interesting results have been observed. The chicks appear unusually healthy, with but little or no mortality; shanks and beaks take on a rich yellow color; and growth up to 10, to 12 weeks is usually 25 to 30 percent above normal.. Pullets that are receiving all the grass they will consume during the growing period seem to have considerable resistance against the ravages of roundworms and tapeworms. That is, heavy egg production is frequently obtained even with fairly heavy infestations of internal parasites. While the high summer temperatures in certain sections of the Midwest the past few summers retarded mid-season growth, the recuperative power of pullets during the early fall months has been remarkable on those farms where succulent green feed has been available thruout the growth period...Green oat-plant silage has been fed to the laying flocks at Kansas State College for three winters. The feed, when stored in pit silos, retained its green color and most of its Vitamin-A content. It was palatable and imparted a rich golden color to the egg yolks. The question confronting poultrymen at present is whether the dehydrated grasses compare favorably with the ensiled grasses. Further experimental work will be necessary to settle this point...Poultrymen who are grass-minded this year will not only be able to reduce their grain bill, but they will also be most favorably impressed with the healthy, vigorous chicks produced. The laying flock will also respond satisfactorily to the grass diet as a supplement to mash and grain rations."

Fruit Tree Rewards     O. H. Roesner, in California Cultivator (March 26) says: "The originators or discoverers of new varieties of fruit trees are to be rewarded for their work along this line by the associated nurserymen of the state. This is an attempt on the part of the nurserymen to repay these men, partly at least, for the benefits their discoveries have brought to the fruit industry and for the financial returns the nurserymen themselves have reaped from the new varieties due to the efforts of these men. . . Under this memorial fund plan the originators of these new varieties are to be paid 1 cent a tree at the end of each tree selling season for every tree of the variety originated by each individual that is sold to growers by all the nurserymen. These payments are to be paid as long as the originators live and their varieties of trees are marketed. All responsible nurserymen have agreed to contribute to the fund..."

Clipper Milk Route     The longest and fastest milk route in the world crosses the Pacific Ocean and is 4,200 miles in length. The Clipper Ship leaves Honolulu and delivers dairy products at three stops. The first leg is to Midway, 1318 miles; the second leg is 1,260 miles crossing the international date line; and the third leg is a 1,560 mile hop to Guam. (Stock & Dairy Farmer, March.)

April 4, 1938

Senate, March 31 Considering bills on the calendar, the Senate passed the following: H. R. 7836, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act by including hops (pp. 5875-5876). An amendment by Mr. McNary, limiting the provisions of the bill to two crop years, was agreed to. S. J. Res. 205; providing for benefit payments to cotton producers for cotton produced in 1937 (p. 5876). S. 2825, to enable the Department to prevent the spread of pullorum and other poultry diseases and to cooperate with States in the national poultry improvement plan (p. 5877). S. 3105, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to include wool tops and other agricultural commodities traded in for future delivery. S. 3174, to provide that crops needed for seeding be released from the liens required for crop loans in 1937 (p. 5896).

The Senate agreed to the House amendments to S. J. Res. 277, creating a special joint congressional committee to investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority (p. 5860). This joint resolution will now be sent to the President.

House, March 31 The House began debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 5821-5850 and 5854-5855). The bill as reported to the House is in the Record (pp. 5826-5830).

The conference report and explanatory statement of the House conferees on H. R. 9915, making several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, were submitted to the House (pp. 5850-5853). The Senate (p. 5873) had already agreed to this report.

Congress, April 1. The Senate passed S. 3735, to authorize loans by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to public agencies and to provide credit facilities for business enterprises. (p. 5985).

The Senate also passed H. R. 8099, to amend certain administrative provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (pp. 6014-6033).

The Senate agreed to S. Res. 198 to investigate the civil-service laws (it was reported from the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate) (p. 5983).

The Senate recessed until Tuesday, April 5.

The House continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 5931-6979).

Bill Introduced in House: By Mr. Sanders: H. R. 10128, to provide for tariff equalization on the manufacturing of cotton and synthetic fibers; ref. Committee on Ways and Means.

Item in Appendix: Radio address by Senator Thomas of Utah, favoring the Harrison bill to provide Federal aid for education (pp. 6035-6036). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Thatcher Wheat is Approved The London correspondent of the Northwestern Miller (March 30) reports that "Thatcher wheat, having been submitted to rigorous milling and baking tests by the British Millers Research Association and in the laboratories and mills of various millers, has passed with honors. It has been proved to be equal in quality to the best varieties of Manitoban wheat, but not so attractive in appearance as Marquis and Reward, which are plump in berry and a rich golden color, two attributes which are absent in Thatcher. This wheat, as is well known, was first developed in Minnesota; later it was produced in Manitoba and its rust resisting characteristics made scientists, growers and millers anxious to prove its real worth. It has been grown in Minnesota on a large scale with success but as to whether it could safely be grown in western Canada was another matter. However, the tests have proved that it is a desirable wheat for milling and baking and is likely to be cultivated in increasing quantities in the future..."

Diets for Women Wage Earners Frieda S. Miller is author of the leading article in the Journal of Home Economics (April) "An Adequate Standard of Living for Women Wage Earners in New York State." She says in part: "It was decided to use the diets of the Bureau of Home Economics as the best authoritative material on the food requirements of individuals of different age, sex, and degree of activity. Of the diet plans outlined by the Bureau of Home Economics, the two which seemed to come closest to satisfying the needs of the New York State cost-of-living study were 'an adequate diet at minimum cost' and 'an adequate diet at moderate cost.' The adequate diet at minimum cost provides a sufficient quantity of the 'protective' foods for health maintenance over an indefinite period on condition that the suggested selection of foods is strictly adhered to. As its name signifies, however, the cost of this diet is the minimum for which an adequate diet can be bought. . ."

Foreclosure Decrease Despite the industrial recession, farm foreclosure sales were nearly one-fourth less during the last quarter of 1937 than during the last quarter of 1936 and 40 per cent less than the corresponding period of 1934, says Governor W.I. Myers of the Farm Credit Administration. Estimates based on reports from agricultural counties including 25 to 30 per cent of all farms in the United States, showed that farm foreclosure sales dropped from approximately 16,500 in the fourth quarter of 1934, to 13,000 in the fourth quarter of 1936, and to 10,000 in the corresponding period of last year. "Practically all classes of mortgage lenders showed a smaller number of farm foreclosures," Governor Myers stated. "Insurance companies had the largest decline, 43 per cent. The Federal land banks were next with a 34 per cent decline." (FCA, No. 9-23)

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Vol. LXIX, No. 3

Section 1

April 5, 1938

**FARM ACT  
AMENDMENTS**

The House passed and sent to the White House yesterday amendments to the new Farm Act intended to improve the cotton and tobacco programs. The amendments, if signed by the President, would: (1) increase the cotton acreage of each State by 4 percent to correct certain inequities; (2) increase the flue-cured tobacco acreage allotment of each State by 2 percent for the same purpose; (3) fix Federal benefit payments for early potatoes at 5.4 cents a bushel; (4) fix a 5,000-acre minimum for States in which the cotton production has been at least 3,500 bales annually; (5) make eligible for Federal cotton price adjustment payments any farmer whose commodity was destroyed by fire or flood. (Associated Press.)

**GRAIN DUST  
EXPLOSION**

Two men were killed and twenty-two others injured, several critically, by a terrific explosion of grain dust late yesterday that wrecked the inside of the nine-story State owned public grain elevator in New Orleans. Arthur E. Dafraines, 48, grain inspector for the Federal Government, died from third-degree burns of the entire body. The blast ripped the clothes from some of the men, tore sheet metal to shreds, blew out windows, rocked near-by homes and sent more than a hundred workmen screaming to the high windows for air. The explosion, said Y. W. Chall, assistant superintendent, was caused by spontaneous combustion of the grain dust. (Associated Press.)

**INDIRECT HIGH-  
WAY LIGHTING**

Highway, safety and automobile engineers will gather in Detroit tomorrow night for the opening of what is said to be the first stretch of American highway ever to be illuminated by indirect lighting. Set at 100-foot intervals along the entire seventy-mile length of Route U.S. 16, between Detroit and Lansing, new reflector buttons, reported to be ten times as powerful as any now in use, have been installed. The buttons will reflect the light from passing automobiles and diffuse it over the highway for at least one mile in advance of the point of origin, according to Murray D. Van Wagoner, State Highway Commissioner. Commissioner Van Wagoner, under whose direction the plan has been worked out, says that the indirect lighting plan is the "most important recent contribution to public safety on the highways." (Press.)

**RFC BILL  
PASSED**

With a vote of 339 to 6 the House of Representatives yesterday afternoon passed and sent back to the Senate for minor concurrences a bill to make \$1,500,000,000 of RFC funds available for loans and advances to private business and to construction projects in States, counties and cities. The measure is expected to be made ready for President Roosevelt's signature within a few days. The Senate passed an almost identical measure last Friday. (Baltimore Sun.)

April 5, 1938

"Fodder Factory"      Green fodder for winter feeding to livestock is made from seeds in only six days in a device of British invention now being demonstrated at the New York Museum of Science and Industry. The "fodder factory" consists of an insulated cabinet containing a series of perforated trays. In these are placed quantities of grain legumes or other seeds, after soaking for 24 hours. The trays are kept at constant temperature, and watered from the top. At the end of six days, when the sprouts have reached a height of six inches, the entire contents of the trays--sprouts, soft seeds, and roots--are fed to the livestock, which relish the succulent fodder. A larger cabinet than the one on display in New York is being tried out on a working scale at a large dairy farm in Connecticut. The "fodder factory" is an invention of Capt. H. H. B. Lund, of England. (Science Digest, May, 1938.)

Heat Loss in Attics      Engineers at the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, in Wisconsin, have completed a study giving actual data on heat loss through unfloored attics. While this heat waste has been known for a long time, few home owners have made an effort to correct the situation. Tests were made in a two-story wooden frame house of about the size and type construction usually found on farms and in rural sections of the country. When the outdoor temperature was 35 degrees F., the temperature at the second story ceiling was 22 degrees where the attic was unfloored and 29 degrees F., where the attic was floored. The test showed that while a cheap one-inch wood floor to the attic gives considerable extra storage space or additional room, about one-third of the heat otherwise lost is saved. (Indiana Farmer's Guide, March 26.)

Iowa 4-H Club Game Management      Hugh Curtis, in Successful Farming (April) says that "in Iowa this year, the Conservation Commission plans to swing into public game-management work by making available 25,000 pheasant chicks and 2,000 quails for brooding, holding, and release in the wild. Tall-Corn boys and girls will have a little different problem with the larger birds. They will start by allowing a bird count of one pheasant per acre where the carrying capacity of the land can hold such a number. On 160 acres, that would mean 160 pheasants. A little simple arithmetic, based on the fact that normally a hen pheasant rears from five to six chicks, will tell our operators that 115 birds on those suitable 160 acres, could be cropped in a year, leaving 30 hens and 15 cocks as seed stock to carry thru the winter. However, a more sensible take would be about one-third of the birds for the first few years. The Iowa Commission recommends that no shooting be allowed the year of release, as the birds have a tendency to become somewhat more tame than quail..."

Soybean Uses      Science Digest (May) contains "New Uses for Soybeans", condensed from a Science Service radio talk, by Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils.

April 5, 1938

Congress,  
April 2

The Senate was not in session.

The House continued debate on the reorganization  
bill (S. 3331) (pp. 6069-6095).

The House Committee on Public Lands reported with amendment H.R. 6243, to authorize an appropriation of \$50,000 to survey the old Indian "Oglethorpe Trail" with a view to constructing a national roadway to be known as "The Oglethorpe National Trail and Parkway" (H. Rept. 2077).

Bill Introduced in House: By Mr. Cartwright: H. R. 10140, to amend the Federal Aid Road Act, approved July 11, 1916, as amended and supplemented, \* \* \*; ref. Committee on Roads.

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Sanders, favoring H. R. 10128, to provide parity prices for cotton farmers (pp. 6102-6103); Radio address by Mr. Fish, April 2, opposing the President's policy with regard to cotton (pp. 6111-6112). (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

CCC Reports Achievements      The Civilian Conservation Corps' expenditure of \$1,920,000,000 thus far on its program has been "a good investment of public funds," Robert Fechner, director of the corps, says in a fifth anniversary report. Among the principal accomplishments of the program, carried out with the cooperation of the War, Interior, Agriculture and Labor Departments, together with the Veterans Administration and State agencies, were: National reforestation program advanced by planting of 1,250,000,000 forest tree seedlings over 1,255,000 acres of unproductive land; by improving forest stands over 2,949,000 acres and by conducting aggressive campaign against tree diseases and tree attacking insects over 16,722,000 acres. Forest fire protection systems strengthened in public forests and parks and adjacent areas by construction of 97,510 miles of truck trails and minor roads, the laying of 64,231 miles of telephone lines, reduction of fire hazards along 64,374 miles of roads and trails and erection of more than 4,000 fire lookout and observation towers. Since April 5, 1933, CCC enrollees have expended 7,700,000 man-days on forest fire fighting duty or on fire prevention or fire suppression work. Furnished men and materials for initiation and advancement of nation-wide erosion control program. Since the spring of 1934 the corps has constructed 3,982,000 check dams and planted 250,000,000 quick-growing-type trees on eroded farm areas. Opened up recreational opportunities in the nation's forests and parks for millions by stimulating new state park development projects, by improving and developing recreational facilities in national and state parks and in other areas. (Press.)

Barter Treaty      A Quito cable to the New York Times says Ecuador has signed a barter treaty with Germany which provides for unlimited exports with payments in aski marks, usable only for the purchase of German goods.

Civil Service Examinations      The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: assembled, Junior Agronomist (optional branches: general agronomy, cotton); Junior Entomologist (optional branches: forest insects, fruit insects); Junior Animal Fiber Technologist, Junior in Animal Nutrition (optional branches: farm animals, poultry); Junior Biologist (wildlife research); Junior Entomological Inspector; Junior Plant Pathological Inspector; Junior Poultry Physiologist; Junior Soil Surveyor; \$2,000, Department of Agriculture. Applications must be on file not later than: (a) April 25, if received from States other than those named in (b); (b) April 28, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Precooling Practice      Refrigerating Engineering (April) contains "A Review of Precooling Practice", a paper by D. F. Fisher of the Department. He says in the last paragraph: "The advantages of precooling are not always utilized. Precooling permits the shipment of riper and better quality fruit but too often it is utilized merely to extend the radius of distribution of the green immature fruit which is otherwise shipped to nearer markets without precooling. A notable example of the benefit of precooling in the marketing of more mature and better quality produce, however, is afforded by the California cantaloupe industry, whose vine-ripened and precooled melons now are meeting such an enthusiastic reception on eastern markets after these outlets had previously been practically lost through the shipment of immature and inedible melons that consumers would not buy."

Community Forests      Community forests are paying as they grow in many sections of the United States, according to a new circular, "Community Forests" just issued by the Forest Service. Community-owned forests have yielded incomes of thousands of dollars which have been used to supplement local taxes or to pay for various local improvements, the Forest Service says. Among the American towns and cities reporting returns from their forests is Newington, New Hampshire which has sold \$6,000 worth of timber and has about the same amount left. Concord, New Hampshire, has sold \$16,000 worth of timber and estimates that it has \$50,000 of merchantable pine remaining. Petersham, Massachusetts, sold \$5,200 worth of timber and estimates it will receive \$50,000 from timber sales during the next 40 years. Westfield, Massachusetts, with a watershed forest of 5,000 acres, estimates that its annual return will be \$20,000. The circular may be obtained free while the supply lasts, from the Forest Service.

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Vol. LXIX, No. 4

Section 1

April 6, 1938

**PRESIDENT ON RAILROADS** In the absence of a final solution to the entire transportation problem, President Roosevelt said yesterday afternoon, the Government cannot afford to pay subsidies to the railroads. Recounting, at his press conference, his reasons for opposing the plan to have the Government guarantee the rail carriers' earnings, Mr. Roosevelt stressed two points. One was the uncertainty over the part the railroads will play in the general transportation system in the future; the other was that the granting of subsidies to railroads would open the way to subsidies for other major industries. (Baltimore Sun.)

**PHILIPPINE-U.S. TRADE** President Roosevelt and President Manuel L. Quezon of the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines have reached an understanding to have the preferential trade relationship between the two countries terminated gradually over a series of years ending in 1960, instead of abruptly with the achievement of complete independence by the islands in 1946. This was announced last night in a statement issued by the State Department. The plan requires legislation by Congress and will be outlined in detail in the report that a joint United States-Philippine Commission is now preparing and hopes to have completed by the end of this month. (Press.)

**EXPORTS AID BUSINESS** Exports are particularly helpful now because they are making up, in part, for the declines in domestic business. Bradford A. Warner, representative of the New York Foreign Trade Week Committee, said last night. Orders for heavy machinery, farm implements, typewriters, refrigerators, petroleum and other goods from overseas nations continue in good volume, he said. Praising the Hull reciprocal trade program, Mr. Warner said a two way expansion of foreign trade has many advantages to America. He said two-way trade is the process by which two countries "get what both want, each parting with what neither needs and both profiting by what neither loses." (New York Times.)

**BRITISH LIVE-STOCK DISEASE** A London report by the Association Press says Great Britain faced yesterday the threat of a severe outbreak of hoof and mouth disease, and the Ministry of Agriculture ordered a ban on movement of livestock in an effort to check its spread. The order affected nearly 25,000,000 animals and was issued after nine cases had been verified. An outbreak last fall was checked with slaughter of thousands of cattle, sheep and pigs.

April 6, 1938

## Section 2

Standards  
for Farm  
Products

Industrial Standardization (March) prints an address by C. W. Kitchen, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, on "National Standards for Farm Products". He says in part: "One of the most important problems before standardization specialists everywhere, whether they are working for the Government or for other agencies, is to limit or remove so far as possible, the element of human judgment in the inspection process. Though this problem is not wholly unsolved, many years of research lie ahead. Too much of the grading process for many products still depends upon the senses--taste, smell, touch, and sight. So long as this is true, complete uniformity cannot be expected in the judgments of numerous graders, whether they are employed by the Government or by industry. Technical experts are continuously at work on this problem, and considerable progress has been made. In the earlier days of grain grading, for example, moisture content, which is a measure of keeping quality, was largely determined by touch. By the feel of the hand, inspectors would judge whether a sample of wheat was dry, tough, or damp, and they would grade it accordingly. When Federal standards for grain were put into effect, a device was developed which determined the moisture content by a process of distilling the water from the sample. Although a great improvement, this method took time and did not produce uniform results under all conditions. By continuous research and experimentation, a new device has been developed which operates on the principle of measuring the resistance to an electric current as it passes through a body of grain. This method has been made official and is now widely used in grain inspection work. It requires only about 30 seconds to determine the moisture content of a sample of grain compared with about 40 minutes under the old method. A quick method of determining the oil content of flaxseed also has been developed. Other mechanical and chemical devices have been and are in process of perfection to remove or limit the uncertainties of grading..."

Overhead  
Highways

"Overhead express highways for San Francisco and Los Angeles, costing something like \$500,000,000, are regarded by business as probably the next big construction job on the Pacific Coast," says Business Week (April 2). "...Business and industrial leaders in California's metropolitan areas have become enthusiastic about overhead highways as a means of getting motor vehicles into and out of city business districts. Preliminary conferences of key leaders in both cities have worked out the broad objects and laid down policies of financing and administration... The plan calls for some 60 or 70 miles of overhead highway in each city so constructed that the express routes, for automobile or motor vehicles only, will provide three or four traffic lanes in each direction entirely free of any obstruction. There would be a distribution 'loop' in the center of the city with radiating branches of multiple-lane highways paralleling existing traffic arteries. Ramps would give convenient access without left-hand turns..."

April 6, 1938

Congress,  
April 4

The Senate was not in session.

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.9915, amending the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (pp. 6143-6149). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The House passed H.J.Res.627, making an additional appropriation to the Civilian Conservation Corps, which was reported with amendment from the Committee on Appropriations (H. Rept. 2078) (pp. 6149-6156).

Considering bills on the consent calendar, the House passed the following: H.R.7874, to provide for leasing State, county, and privately owned land for grazing districts (P. 6121). S.3105, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to include wool tops (p. 6128). This bill will now be sent to the President. H.R.8780, to extend the provisions of the act authorizing Federal aid in wildlife restoration, to the District of Columbia and any territory or possession (p. 6128). H.R.9816, to amend the act which provides for the disposition, control, and use of surplus real property acquired by Federal agencies (pp.6130-6131). S.3304, to promote air commerce by closing Military Road (p.6131). This bill will now be sent to the President. The bill does not affect Arlington Farm.

Trade agreements: Mr. Case of S.D. inserted in the Record his statement to the Committee on Reciprocity Information, opposing lowering of tariff rates on livestock and meats (p.6119).

Bills Introduced: In House: By Mr. Harrington: H. R. 10149, amending section 202 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, relating to new uses and new markets for farm commodities; ref. Committee on Agriculture. By Mr. McSweeney: H. R. 10155, to permit articles imported from foreign countries for exhibition at the Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exposition, Cleveland, Ohio, 1939, to be admitted without payment of tariff, \* \* \*; ref. Committee on Ways and Means.

Items in Appendix: Letters from the Analagamated Sugar Co. and the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association to Mr. Robinson of Utah regarding the sugar situation (pp. 6174-6176). Extension of remarks of Mr. Murdock of Ariz.,, entitled "Final Touches to the Farm Bill" (pp.6189-6190). (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

Fences for Bees American Bee Journal (April) contains a short letter from Fred F. Richards, who says: "In localities frequented by bears the beekeepers have always had the problem of Bruin, but now a new invention has come along to solve the problem. G. H. Vansell, Department of Agriculture specialist in bee culture at the Davis Experiment Station, California, has reported on experiments with the use of electric fences to keep bears away from mountain apiaries. Construction of such fences has been found to be absolutely practical and Vansell reports that a bear which has been shocked once from the electric fence never returns...Apiarists in southern Idaho are also finding the electric fence an economical way of guarding the apiary against intruders."

April 6, 1938

Collection  
of Woods

The Yale School of Forestry has recently installed a unique exhibit of more than one hundred Philippine, Bahaman, and American woods, finished in the form and size of books, says a New Haven report in Southern Lumberman (April 1). They have been designated as the Benjamin Walworth Arnold Memorial Collection, and incorporated in the school's permanent exhibit of the woods of the world. The wood collections of the Yale School of Forestry, of which the Arnold gift is now a part, are the most nearly complete of any in existence. Under the direction of Professor Samuel J. Record, more than 35,000 samples of wood have been assembled and made available for scientific research. These collections form the basis for a co-operative study that is now being made by wood anatomists in the United States and many foreign countries.

Plastics from  
Soybeans

Three workers of the U. S. Regional Soybean Industrial Products Laboratory, Urbana, Illinois, are authors of "Protein Plastics from Soybean Products" in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (April). They say in summary: "Water-plasticized material analogous to casein plastics from soybean meal or protein can be prepared, but modified procedure would be necessary and it is questionable whether as good a product would result. Reduction below about 5 per cent of the moisture content of soybean meal or protein gives a base material from which a different type of plastic material results. Its properties more closely resemble those of zein than those of casein. Using this dehydrated protein base, it should be possible to develop resinouslike plastics that would come finished from the die and have greater water resistance than would be possible with water-plasticized material."

Vitamin E  
for Animals

Vitamin E, called the fertility or anti-sterility vitamin because rats need it in order to bear young, is apparently not a diet need of farm animals, B. H. Thomas, C. Y. Cannon, S. H. McNutt and G. Underbjerg of Iowa State College reported recently to the American Institute of Nutrition. The effect of vitamin E deficient diets has not hitherto been determined for farm animals, the Iowa scientists pointed out. Feed mixtures that lacked vitamin E and that kept rats from bearing young were given to goats, sheep and rabbits. Male and female goats were able to reproduce through several generations unhampered by the lack of the rat anti-sterility vitamin. The same occurred with rabbits. Young lambs fed on a diet lacking the anti-sterility vitamin are nevertheless showing unmistakable signs that they will shortly bear young. Studies of rats in the past have yielded much valuable information on diet and vitamins that has been applicable to farm animals and to man. Apparently the effects of special diets cannot invariably be transferred from rat nutrition to other animal nutrition. (Science Service.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXIX, No. 5

Section 1

April 7, 1938

**REORGANIZATION BILL VOTE** The House finally agreed yesterday by unanimous consent to stop general debate on the reorganization bill and will proceed to a test vote today soon after it convenes.

Representative O'Connor of New York, chairman of the Rules Committee, who forsook the Administration forces to form a coalition in opposition to the bill, served notice that as soon as "reading of the bill" is begun at noon he would offer a motion to amend by "striking out the title." This motion will have precedence over all amendments. If carried it means the death of the bill. If defeated, the House will proceed to the task of re-whipping the measure into form with numerous compromises. (Press.)

**WAGES AND HOURS BILL** A new wages and hours bill, some of its terms modified from those of a measure killed during the special session last year, was reported yesterday to the House Labor Committee by a subcommittee. A meeting of the full committee was called for today to consider the draft, which was completed by a subcommittee headed by Representative Ramspeck of Georgia, after weeks of effort to find a measure acceptable to the House and its rules committee. The new bill calls for a Labor Standards Board of five members to be appointed by the President. It would be empowered to fix wages for the lower-paid industries at not to exceed 40 cents an hour, and to establish a work-week of not more than forty-eight hours to begin with. (Press.)

**U.S. EXPORTS TO MEXICO** The Commerce Department said yesterday the stiff new Mexican tariffs had little effect on United States merchandise exports to Mexico in February. Shipments to Mexico in the month amounted to \$7,089,000, compared with \$7,877,000 in the same month last year. Experts, said, however, that a large quantity of goods was shipped to Mexico in February under contracts made before the tariff increase became effective on January 20 and was assessed the old duties. The real effect of the tariffs probably will show up in the March figures, which will be available a month from now. (Associated Press.)

**CHEESE.** Cheese consumption in the United States has increased to about five pounds per capita annually, compared with only two and one-half pounds per capita twenty years ago, according to the current issue of the Commerce Department's "Foodstuffs 'Round the World." (New York Times.)

April 7, 1938

FTC Control Over Food, Drugs, etc. "Unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the exploitation and sale of foods, drugs, diagnostic and therapeutic devices and cosmetics in interstate and foreign commerce, even though not involved in commercial competition, will shortly come under the jurisdiction of the Federal Trade Commission through the operation of the Wheeler-Lea Act, approved March 21 by the President," says an editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association (April 2). "...The provisions of the new act that relate to advertising originated in bills designed to safeguard the public against fraud and danger to health through the distribution in interstate and foreign commerce of adulterated and misbranded foods, drugs, diagnostic and therapeutic devices and cosmetics. The advertising provisions in the present act were lifted bodily from the Copeland food and drugs act, S.5, which has passed the Senate, and, after modification, were included in the act which has just been approved. Jurisdiction over the advertising of foods, drugs, diagnostic and therapeutic devices and cosmetics is therefore to be vested in the Federal Trade Commission, while jurisdiction over the labeling of such products will be left to the Secretary of Agriculture. There will be similar division of authority with respect to the general control of such merchandise. While the Secretary of Agriculture is still to retain specific control over adulteration and misbranding, the Federal Trade Commission can at any moment take jurisdiction on the ground that adulteration and misbranding constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices and therefore come within its jurisdiction. Inevitably such division of authority with respect to labeling and advertising and such duplication of authority with respect to adulteration and misbranding will lead to conflicts. The enlarged jurisdiction of the Federal Trade Commission will necessitate an increase in personnel and laboratory resources, if effective work is to be done. The public should be aware of the situation and the medical profession must continue to investigate and to protect the public until it is satisfied that this act as administered is affording the protection that is required."

Expenditures for Research. Science News Letter (April 2), in an item on research, says: "It is a matter of more than idle curiosity as to how many dollars are being spent for research, dollars plowed back into our workaday world to produce more scientific dividends in dollars and better living." In good round figures, somewhat over a cent is spent for research out of each dollar grossed by U. S. manufacturing and agriculture, according to figures collected from a score of sources, Industry spends more than agriculture, 1.7% (some \$250,000,000) out of the \$14,690,000,000 gross manufacturing income of 1936. Agricultural research, almost wholly by state and federal institutions, used 0.37% or some \$35,600,000 of the estimated \$9,530,000,000 cash farm income and value of home consumed farm products combined. In terms of population, the total for research expenditures in these two great fields is only a couple of dollars per person in the U.S."

April 7, 1938

Senate, April 5      Messrs. Ellender, Logan, Johnson of Colo., Austin, and Lundeen were appointed members of the special Senate committee to investigate the administration of the civil service system, authorized by S. Res. 198, agreed to April 1 (p. 6192).

Both Houses received a letter from the Acting Comptroller General, transmitting a report regarding expenditures and contracts made by certain executive departments and agencies in violation of the law; ref. House and Senate Committees on Expenditures in the Executive Departments (pp. 6193, 6297).

House, April 5      The House continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 6249-6251 and 6263-6296).

The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H. R. 7836, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act by including hops (p. 6250). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The House Committee on Roads reported without amendment H.R.10140, to amend the Federal Aid Road Act of July 11, 1916 (H. Rept. 2094).

Items in Appendix: Excerpts from a speech by Senator Lee on Dec. 9, 1937, favoring the domestic-allotment plan for cotton (pp. 6305-6307). Statement of Mr. Luecke before Committee on Reciprocity Information, April 5, opposing any tariff reduction on certain forest products, etc. (pp. 6317-6318). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Electric Milk Sterilizer      A modern automatic electrically controlled oven for sterilizing the utensils used in the milk room at the New York State Experiment Station at Geneva has recently been installed in place of a hand-operated gas oven sterilizer used at the station for the past ten years, the new equipment embracing the basic principles worked out by the station dairy specialists with the gas oven, says a Geneva report in the American Produce Review (March 23). These principles are fully explained by Dr. A. C. Dahlberg and J. C. Marquardt, station dairy specialists, in Bulletin No. 612, which is available upon request. The principles developed in the station tests were first applied in the installation of a simple gas-fired oven in the station milk room. The new automatic electrically controlled ovens are now available throughout the United States and Canada.

Weights and Measurements      Recommended specifications, tolerances and regulations for all sorts of commercial weighing and measuring devices are listed by the National Bureau of Standards in a new handbook. Designed to eliminate from use weighing and measuring devices which are false or do not keep proper adjustment reasonably permanently or will facilitate fraud, the handbook lists recommendations made by the National Conference on Weights and Measures at its conference at the Bureau in 1937. (Science Service.)

Frozen Foods and Lockers      Ice and Refrigeration (April) says: "Recently attention was called in these columns to the future possibilities of a hook-up between frozen food distributors and cold storage locker plants. These locker plants offer a convenient method for the small retailer to carry stocks of such foods as must be held under regulated temperatures. Going a step further, a new refrigerated locker plant now under construction in Minnesota announces that a small store is being included for the sale of sea foods and frozen foods. Also a report comes from California of a creamery that is going into the retail distribution of these products. This is a logical development of the cold storage locker plant which, in its early stages, was almost wholly a service institution, providing a place for patrons to store foods for their own use. But the merchandising angle has begun to show possibilities. The frozen food industry is growing, and soon public appreciation and knowledge will extend beyond big city territories. The cold storage locker plant has the facilities needed by the frozen food producer to extend his business into places where commercial cold storage is not available, either as a distributing base, on a jobbing basis, or as a retailer."

Agricultural Experiment Bulletin      Nature (London, March 19) contains a review of Miscellaneous Publication 251, "History of Agricultural Experimentation in the United States, 1607-1925", by the late A. C. True (formerly of the Office of Experiment Stations). It says in part: "This is the third official monograph in a series intended to give a comprehensive summary of the history of agricultural education, extension and research in the United States, the two previously issued having dealt with agricultural instruction in schools and colleges, and the history of agricultural extension work respectively... It will be noted with interest that the first governmental movement to help agriculture was made when George Washington was president...A bibliography of more than three hundred references is appended. These are limited to sources of information used in the text and to bibliographical sketches of some of the leading figures in the earlier periods of agricultural development in the United States."

Exports Excess      The Federal Reserve Bulletin for April points to the "necessity of paying for the excess of merchandise exports from this country, amounting to \$600,000,000, during the six months ending February," as a factor in the decline of foreign balances in the United States. The bulletin says the decline in balances of foreign central banks and in other foreign balances here, which was substantial in the final months of 1937, continued in both classes of balances throughout most of the first quarter of the current year, but at a somewhat slower rate. The bulletin notes that, following a statement by President Roosevelt on February 13 that devaluation of the dollar--was not contemplated, the leading foreign currencies "drifted irregularly lower in this market." (New York Times.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 6

Section 1

April 8, 1938

**REORGANIZATION AMENDMENTS** An unbroken series of Administration victories by margins sometimes small marked the preliminary skirmishes in the House yesterday over the reorganization bill. The House voted down by 191 to 169 a motion by Representative O'Connor of New York to kill the bill by striking out the enacting clause, and went on to adopt accepted amendments and consistently rejected those not approved by sponsors of the bill. Carrying out prior pledges, the leaders amended the measure to provide (1) that the House and Senate could override Presidential reorganization proposals by concurrent resolution, and (2) to protect the General Office of Education and the Veterans Administration from proposed changes. (New York Times.)

**AUSTRIA OFF PREFERENTIAL TARIFF LIST** President Roosevelt removed Austria yesterday from the list of nations receiving preferential tariff treatment from the United States. Germany was removed from the preferential tariff list some time ago. Removal of Austria means that products coming from that country must pay the highest American tariffs in effect. Austria and Germany are the only countries which do not receive preferential tariffs. Yesterday's action was taken because their exchange restrictions and import quotas are believed to discriminate against American goods. (Associated Press.)

**BAKER ON BIRTH RATE** Restoration of the dowry, especially for young persons entering professional careers, to stem a declining birth rate, was advocated yesterday by O. E. Baker, economist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, says a Chicago report by the Associated Press. Young persons of this class frequently earned less than unskilled labor during the early years of their married life, he told the conference on "Agriculture and Modern Life" at Northwestern University. "Since they have been accustomed to the comforts and even some of the luxuries of life," Baker said, "the tendency of these young folk under low income conditions is to postpone childbirth and in most cases reduce it."

**TRADE PACTS DEFENDED** Secretary Hull's program for reciprocal trade agreements offers the only practicable alternative to economic and political isolationism, which would lead ultimately to totalitarianism, Dr. Henry F. Grady, vice chairman of the United States Tariff Commission, told the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York yesterday. Dr. Grady defended the trade agreements and specifically the shoe concession in the agreement with Czechoslovakia. (Press.)

April 8, 1938

Ayrshire Record      The world's record Ayrshire producer in the senior three-year-old, 305-day division of the roll of honor, is Penshurst Charming Elma, owned by Richard Whitney of Far Hills, New Jersey. This heifer made a record of 15,857 pounds of butterfat, displacing her nearest rival by 79 pounds of butterfat. Characteristic of her record was the uniformity of production of this Ayrshire. In no month did she exceed an average of 60 pounds of milk per day, and she completed her lactation with a production of 40 pounds a day. During her record, Penshurst Charming Elma produced five pounds of milk for each pound of grain consumed. (Coastal Cattleman, April.)

Bread Weight      The New York Times Magazine (April 3) contains an article, "New York City Weighs, and Surveys, Its Bread", by Catherine Mackenzie. The Department of Markets, she says, has made a survey of the city's supply and what consumers know about it and has proposed an ordinance governing standard weights of bread. "The consumer may think that an ounce or two makes little difference, but the U. S. Department of Agriculture has figured that a loss of two ounces each on two loaves a day will run up to 91 pounds in a year. 'The results on the pocketbook are the same as a rise in price,' as the government says and as the housewife who watches the pennies is well aware." The author also quotes the Department on "bread improvers".

Citrus Tree Duster      "The latest duster for treating citrus trees for the red spider blight is of a type to make use of recently developed toxic materials which require that all surfaces of the foliage and fruits of a tree be thoroughly dusted," says Business Week (April 2). "The duster, built by agricultural engineers of the University of California, consists of large fans operating at 1,200 r.p.m. These discharge 7,000 cubic feet of air a minute through fishtail nozzles at a velocity of 65 miles an hour. Farm equipment manufacturers are keeping a watchful eye on this product of a university's research; citrus growers see an end to a troublesome problem."

Western "Junior" Stock Show      Breaking all previous records in the number of entries, there will be more than 3,000 head of livestock exhibited at the eleventh annual Interstate Junior Livestock and Baby Beef Show, South San Francisco, April 10 to 14. This is approximately 1,000 head in excess of the record of last year's exhibition. The entry of 1,834 hogs in the exhibition will make this the biggest individual hog show held in the United States this year. In all departments--baby beef, lambs and hogs--according to E. W. Stephens, manager of the show, Future Farmer and 4-H Club exhibitors are sending some of the finest livestock ever shown in the West. (Pacific Rural Press, April 2.)

April 8, 1938

Congress,  
April 6

The Senate passed the Interior Department Appropriation Bill. The Senate Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation reported without amendment S. Res. 241, extending the time for an investigation of water resources of arid and irrigable States; the resolution was referred to the Committee on Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate (p. 6322).

The House continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 6364-6365 and 6366-6429). (Prepared by Office of Budget & Finance.)

Inbred Fowls  
Fight Cancer

Ole Lande, in Iowa Agriculturist (March) reports that "Iowa State has the one experiment station in the United States in which a strain of poultry has been carried beyond the tenth year of intensive inbreeding--the equivalent of brother-sister mating. Since poultry experts at Iowa State College have succeeded in doing this, research laboratories at Cambridge University in England, and the University of Chicago, besides the Rockefeller Institute, are seeking these pure strain individuals for use in their experiments. What has happened to these fowls which have been so intensely inbred? Nothing serious has happened to fertility, for one thing, because it remains at 80 percent or above after 10 generations, with just one set of parents going slightly below the 80 percent mark...As this inbred strain passes its tenth generation it is found that the hatchability has leveled off at about 65 percent, and all indications show that the percentage will remain at about that figure through succeeding generations. Hens of the intensely inbred strains produce their first eggs 16 days earlier on the average than the birds of the original non-inbred foundation stock...The Iowa tests further showed that the ability to lay a reasonable number of eggs had not been lost in the birds even in the tenth generation of inbreeding. Neither was the size of egg changed significantly...However, there is much to be done in the study of inheritance of many other characteristics of poultry besides those already considered. At present it seems that the greatest value of inbred poultry lies in their use as experimental subjects for research work in genetics, pathology, nutrition, and similar projects."

Argentine  
Market for  
U. S. Goods

The Argentine market for goods from the United States is expanding rapidly as result of foreign purchasing power accumulated by record breaking grain exports last year. Official Argentine foreign trade figures published in Buenos Aires showed that imports from the United States in the first two months this year were 38% higher than in the 1937 period, the gain exactly matching the entire import trade percentage gain. The value of American goods finding a market in Argentina now is just about the same as that of British, whereas in the past few years imports from England had ranked first. (Wall Street Journal, April 17.)

April 8, 1938

Cotton Staple Length Manufacturers Record (April) says editorially: "...The contention of our cotton farmers that staple length and grade is largely dependent upon climatic, insect and soil conditions, is no longer entirely tenable. The United States Bureau of Plant Industry has conclusively proved by its numerous cotton growing experiments at a variety of places throughout the South, that good quality long staple cotton can be grown under conditions virtually identical with those which produce poor quality short staple cotton. Over a period of years there has been a slight improvement in American cotton, but with certain exceptions this has been due almost exclusively to the work of plant breeders...The astonishing thing to me is that growth of an uniform long staple crop will increase a cotton farmer's income from ten to twenty percent, for buyers pay as much as \$20 per bale more for the long varieties. Furthermore, as the Bureau points out, 15/16 inch and longer cottons can, in the majority of cases, be made to produce virtually the same amount of lint per acre as do the shorter staple varieties."

Soil Needs  
in North  
Carolina

Worn-out soils, impoverished by years of overcropping and neglect, have been making it almost impossible for thousands of North Carolina farm families to maintain "a decent standard of living," says a report in the Raleigh News & Observer (April 4). The need for restoring the fertility of the soil is one of the greatest problems confronting agriculture today, said E. C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College. In 1936, he pointed out, the average yield of corn per acre over the State was only 18.5 bushels, of wheat 9.8 bushels, of oats 14 bushels, of hay .76 of a ton, of cotton 305 pounds, of tobacco 766 pounds, and of peanuts, 1,070 pounds. Yet experiments have shown that with moderate improvements in the soil fertility together with the adoption of better seed and cultural practices, it would be possible to grow the amount of these crops now produced in the State and on a half to three-fourths of the land required at present. And in cases much greater increases in yield are possible, Blair pointed out. Last year Mitch Snelson, Buncombe County 4-H club boy, grew 178 bushels of corn on one acre. The average farmer, however, needed to plant almost 10 acres to grow that much corn.

Farm Mortgage  
Reports

A series of reports on the farm mortgage situation in individual States is announced by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, with the issuance of the initial report, Farm Mortgage Recordings in Iowa, 1917-35. Similar reports will be issued for other States. These reports summarize basic annual data obtained in a nation-wide project under the joint sponsorship of the Works Progress Administration and the Bureau. The agricultural experiment stations of 44 States also cooperated in collecting information within their States. The studies show the trend of average amounts loaned, sources of funds, and interest rates. The report on the farm mortgage situation in Iowa shows the average of newly recorded loans per farm in that State ranging from a high of \$11,000 in 1920 down to a low of \$4,270 in 1934.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 7

Section 2

April 11, 1938

**COURT UPHOLDS N.H. WATER STORAGE** In a far-reaching liberal decision the State Supreme Court of New Hampshire has upheld the act embodying the New Hampshire program for water storage with incidental benefits of stream flow regulation, flood control and power production projects on a self-liquidating basis. Construction, ownership and management of works are delegated to the State Water Resources Board as an administrative agency. Water users, principally private utilities, will pay construction, administration and operation expenses through annual contributions fixed by contracts while the state will guarantee revenue bonds issued in the first instance to provide construction capital. (New York Times.)

**APPROVE SUPER HIGHWAY** President Roosevelt approved Friday an allotment by the Works Progress Administration of \$24,031,863 for construction of a 162-mile super highway in Pennsylvania, extending from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh. The federal allotment, supplementing a local contribution of \$29,483,193 by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, was recommended more than a week ago by W.P.A. officials and now awaits only the final approval of the Controller General. The new super highway, the first of the kind to receive a W.P.A. allotment, will give employment to 14,000 to 16,000 W.P.A. workers, officials said. Comprising four traffic lanes, it will follow an old railroad right-of-way between the two cities. (Press.)

**REPORT ON TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS** Technological improvements in the last decade have required relatively small capital outlays but have resulted in the displacement of many workers, thus throwing a double burden on government, Corrington Gill, Assistant WPA Administrator, declared Saturday in transmitting a WPA study on the subject to Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator. The first burden, Mr. Gill said, was that of providing employment for the workers directly displaced by the improvements and the second that of providing capital outlays from government funds to take the place of those normally made in previous decades incident to the productive improvements. (Press.)

April 11, 1938

Czech Trade Pact Benefits "The reciprocal trade agreement recently signed with Czechoslovakia allows lower duties on beaded bags, spangles, fancy gloves, fancy buttons and various other articles of such merchandise," says an editorial in the Memphis Commercial Appeal (March 30). "The Czechs excel in this type of thing, and have for generations. In other words, the treaty takes into consideration the principle that any nation that has natural advantages in any line should be allowed the benefits thereof. This includes inherited skills and abilities created by long terms of specialization that allow a certain set of workers to make a product that cannot be equaled by any others... Incidentally, the cotton belt has an interest of a direct and material sort in seeing Czechoslovakia's power to buy over here maintained by allowing her to sell here. The Czechs purchased about \$1,000,000 worth of cotton from us last year, and that figure marked the continuation of a disposition to increase purchases of American cotton. While the situation is so complex and delicate as to demand careful handling, Secretary Hull is proving that it can be handled to that sort of mutual benefit that must be the foundation of all permanently satisfactory international dealings."

Teaching Vocational Agriculture A discussion on part-time education in agriculture, at the recent Southern Regional Conference of Teachers, Trainers and Supervisors of Vocational Education, led by Dr. R. W. Gregory of the U. S. Office of Education, resulted in numerous teaching methods to be recommended to instructors throughout the 10 Southern States. The group recommended the following ten-point plan for instruction: differentiation between part-time (youths out of school) and evening school (adult) students; provision of participation training as pre-employment-training; central issue of young farmer education to be placement opportunity and progressive extension in farming; administrative support; systematized day and night group co-operative action to be provided (an organization to accept responsibility for progress of instruction needs development); field supervision; provide farming programs, and development of research studies to validate their actions. (Richmond (Va.) Times Dispatch, April 6.)

Two Million Trees for Montana "Montana farmers and ranchers will this year plant more trees and shrubs than any other year since shelterbelt work started and make a substantial addition to the 3,500-acre forest already in existence," says E. E. Isaac, Extension Forester in the Montana Farmer (April 1). "Every Montana county, with one exception, now has shelterbelts. These trees have come from the northern great plains station at Mandan, N.D., or from the forest nursery of the Montana State University. The Montana nursery was started in 1928. All orders for its trees are placed with the Montana extension service, whose records show that 48,000 were distributed in 1928. Last year 300,000 were distributed. The grand total of shelterbelt plantings over the last 10 years is 2,101,449 trees. With the average space allotted in farm plantings this means a sizable forest of 3,500 acres."

Congress,                    The Senate began debate on the revenue bill (H.R.9682) (pp. 6471-6522). The committee amendment to strike out the excise tax on pork products was agreed to (pp. 6515-6521).

The House continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 6532-6569).

Among the amendments rejected were the following: By Mr. Murdock of Utah: Exempting the Forest Service from the provisions of the bill (pp. 6559-6560). By Mr. Mott: Exempting the Forest Service, Bureau of Biological Survey, and Soil Conservation Service from the provisions of the bill (pp. 6560-6562).

The House Committee on Public Lands reported the following bills: H. R. 8165, to add lands to the Trinity National Forest, Calif. (with amendment) H. Rept. 2102); H. R. 9523, to add lands to the Ochoco National Forest, Oreg. (with amendment (H.Rept.2103) (p. 6570).

Messrs. Cullen, Sanders, McCormack, Knutson, and Reed of N.Y. were appointed House conferees on H.R.8099, to amend certain administrative provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (p.6569).

Item in Appendix: Statement of Mr. Ferguson before Committee on Reciprocity Information, April 7, opposing trade agreements affecting live cattle and chilled beef (pp. 6595-6597). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Senate,                    The Senate continued debate on the revenue bill (H.R. 9682) (pp. 6606-6650). The committee amendment abolishing the tax on sales of produce for future delivery was agreed to (pp. 6608-6616). That regarding taxation of imported Engelmann spruce was passed over (pp. 6606- and 6616-6618). The Senate began debate on Mr. Pope's amendment providing tariff equalization taxes on the manufacturing of certain agricultural products (pp. 6633-6650).

The conference report on the amendments in disagreement to the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 8837) stating that the conferees are still unable to agree, was submitted to the Senate (p. 6606). One amendment relates to use of oleomargarine in Veterans Hospitals.

Messrs. Walsh, Connally, Bailey, Clark and Vandenberg were appointed Senate conferees on H.R. 8099, to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 (p. 6616).

House, Apr.8              The House agreed to a motion (by Mr. Taber) to recommit the reorganization bill to the Select Committee on Government Organization (pp. 6654-6655, 6658 and 6660-6637).

The House adjourned until April 11.

Item in appendix: statement of Mr. Coffee of Nebraska before Committee on Reciprocity Information, April 4, protesting against reduction of tariffs on livestock and livestock products (pp. 6703-6705).

Greenbelt Town In England As Greenbelt (Maryland) starts the wheels of its first government moving, with modern, low-rent dwellings provided for its 885 families, comparison is apt with the town of Wythenshawe, England, states Walter H. Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials. Wythenshawe, England's newest planned low-cost housing community, is planned to provide homes for an ultimate population of 100,000 to 125,000 persons, with a maximum density of 12 families to the acre. (In the central belt of Manchester, families average 60 to the acre, a density by no means a "peak" for equivalent sections in either English or American large cities.) For the present population of approximately 32,000, there are now about seven thousand corporation houses with approximately a thousand under construction. Houses can be privately constructed, subject to regulations laid down by the city of Manchester. The English city differs from the American in that the latter does not contemplate, at least for the present, the establishment of local industries. In existence for seven years, Wythenshawe has found that, with most of the industries located in Manchester proper, transportation costs are a noticeable burden to low-income workers, and is now encouraging private enterprise to establish industries within its own boundaries. (Engineering News-Record, April 7.)

BAE Turkey Poult Survey M. C. Small, Managing Editor, Turkey World (April) says: "The poult starting intentions survey, summarized on page 20 of this issue, is an example of the fine work that the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics is doing for the turkey industry. This department has been doing everything in its power to give the turkey people more statistics to use in planning their turkey operations. We take this means of expressing our appreciation for this fine cooperation."

Holstein Dairy Sire Records Aged almost 16 and easily one of the greatest dairy sires of all time, Matador Segis Ormsby, known as "Old Sandy," died recently of old age at Carnation Milk farms, where he left 86 daughters, 35 of them with records above 800 pounds of fat in class A and 32 with class B records made at first calving and averaging 536 pounds. Thirteen daughters have over 1000 pounds each, five over 1100, three over 1200, two over 1300--and one of the latter is Carnation Ormsby Butter King, the only cow with over 1400. It is more than likely that within a few months "Sandy" will have 30 daughters averaging over 1000 pounds. It is in his sons, however, that his future lies. Three of these are in heavy service at Carnation, and the first two daughters of one of them (Carnation Chieftain) averaged over 600 pounds. To get one of the others back into the herd, Carnation paid \$4150, the highest price for a Holstein in many years; and the third is full brother to this one. (Washington Farmer, March 31.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXIX, No. 8

Section 1

April 12, 1938

AID FOR  
EROSION  
CONTROL

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Farm Security Administration have agreed upon a plan for making loans to farmers in the wind-erosion or "dust-bowl" area of the Southern Great Plains to assist them in financing wind-erosion control practices. Roy I. Kimmel, Coordinator of the Southern Great Plains branch of the Department of Agriculture, said yesterday that the plan provided for the AAA to approve the assignment of conservation program payments as security for the loans. Assignments will be conditioned on the farmers agreeing to handle the land for which payments are to be assigned so as to prevent any of it becoming a wind-erosion hazard. The assignments will be made in forty counties in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma. (Press.)

TRANSATLANTIC WEATHER SERVICE A scheme to outwit the storms of the north Atlantic, for the first time since ocean traffic started between the Old World and the New, was in formulation yesterday for protection of air transport passengers, says an Associated Press report from New York. Just returned from an international conference of the four nations planning on the inauguration of transatlantic air service, United States representatives said facilities for the ocean-wide weather service to be set up would cost more than \$1,000,000. The American representatives, E. L. Yuravich, of the Department of Commerce, and D. M. Little, of the Weather Bureau, said elaborate upper-air reports from ships at sea, obtained with "sounding" balloons, would augment the data from land stations.

RESOLUTION  
FOR HEALTH  
INSURANCE

Senator Wagner of New York offered yesterday a resolution providing \$50,000 for an investigation of national health problems directed toward possible Federal legislation for insurance against sickness for the indigent and for the low-salaried groups unable to lay aside money for illness. The Senator, describing Federal health insurance as the "last social frontier," asserted that "every major country except the United States has long since taken important steps in this direction." He observed that while the indigent now are receiving public aid, "it is nowhere near adequate, and millions in the lower-income classes are virtually without protection." (Press.)

April 12, 1938

Protection  
of Birds  
of Prey

The New York Times (April 10) in an editorial commenting on the work of the Emergency Conservation Committee in protecting our birds of prey, says in part:

"By a long series of pamphlets setting forth the facts and by its establishment of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary on the Kittatinny Ridge in Eastern Pennsylvania, the committee has done yeoman's service in emphasizing the value of the hawks and owls in the balance of Nature. Scientific study has shown that few indeed of our wild creatures have been so maligned as the predacious birds. The Bald Eagle, our national symbol, and the Golden Eagle have been reduced almost to the point of vanishment not merely by their natural retreat before the inroads of settlement but by ruthless persecution as a result of mistaken theories concerning their threat... Both are now so uncommon as to make debate of their characteristics largely academic. Of the hawks..only the Duck Hawk (too rare to be important economically), the Goshawk and Cooper's Hawk are seriously destructive to game birds and poultry and the Sharp-shinned Hawk to small birds. The owls, with the exception of the Great Horned Owl, which is sometimes a menace to poultry and game, confer great benefits on man, especially the farmer, by their feeding habits..."

N.Y. Wants  
Potato  
Markets

Through scientific research some 40,000 New York state potato growers expect to recover their lost and dwindling markets, says Paul D. Shoemaker, Associated Press Farm Editor, in an Ithaca report. The potato improvement committee, sponsored by the club and the New York Farm Bureau Federation, was organized three years ago with Roy Porter, a farmer, as chairman. A conference with heads of departments at the State College of Agriculture and the Geneva experiment station disclosed that little was known about potato improvement. A plan for an intensive research program was laid before the legislature and a grant of \$46,000 was obtained to start research work. Porter said farmers who produced quality potatoes and graded them properly last year found the demand greater than the supply. Dr. Donald Reddick, professor of plant pathology, went to Mexico to develop varieties of outstanding quality, resistant or immune to blight and scab, of proper starch content, of uniform size and shape and without deep-pitted eyes and capable of heavy yields through plant breeding. He brought back wild potato seedlings and tubers immune to blight. "These wild potatoes," he said, "were very small and frequently I found the tuber 10 feet from the stalk. They were not very much as potatoes, but were exceedingly valuable for breeding purposes because of that lone quality--immunity to blight." (Idaho Statesman, April 4.).

Dr. Cottrell  
Gets Medal

The American Institute of Chemists recently announced its annual medal for outstanding service to the science of chemistry or the profession of chemist had been awarded to Dr. Frederick G. Cottrell (formerly of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils), consulting chemist, metallurgist and inventor. The award is for his "outstanding scientific achievements and for his service to the profession." Dr. Cottrell is the inventor of the Cottrell precipitator, which by electrostatic attraction cleans gases of fine particles of dust. The medal will be presented to him at the annual dinner of the institute on May 14. (Press.)

April 12, 1938

Congress, The Senate passed the revenue bill of 1938 (H.R.9682) April 9 (pp. 6719-6774). The Pope amendment, providing tariff equalization taxes on the manufacturing of certain agricultural products, was defeated by a vote of 24 to 53 (pp. 6719-6735).

The Senate recessed until Monday, April 11.

The House was not in session.

Items in Appendix: Correspondence between Senator Brown of Mich., the President of the Michigan Sugar Co., and Secretary Wallace, regarding sugar prices, (pp. 6776-6778). Memorandum by J. S. Abbott, Director of Research, National Association of Margarine Manufacturers, discussing relative food value of butter and oleomargarine (p.6781). (Inserted by Senator Connally).

Bills approved by President: H. R. 9915, amending the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. Approved April 7, 1938. (Public No. 470, 75th Congress.) S. 3105, amending the Commodity Exchange Act to include wool tops. Approved April 7, 1938. (Public No. 471, 75th Congress.) S.2339, amending the act of May 25, 1926, relating to construction of certain public buildings. Approved March 31, 1938. (Public No. 455, 75th Congress.) (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Good Friday USDA Chorus The Agriculture Chorus, whose recent Grand Opera program was repeated by popular demand, will be heard next in its fourth annual presentation of DuBois' dynamic "Seven Last Words of Christ", Good Friday afternoon, April 15, at 5:00 o'clock in the Auditorium. For the first time, no cards will be issued for this program since it is desired that every one have an equal opportunity to attend.

Rural Health Service "As the result largely of the developments under the National Social Security Act, there has been an exceptionally rapid growth in number of counties under some form of local whole-time health administration during the past year," reports the Journal of the American Medical Association (April 2). "Not all of the counties have independent health services; in several cases a number of counties have been included in a single district. The total population of counties having some form of local whole-time health administration is 23,232,626, which is 41.7 percent of the entire rural population of the United States. The great majority of these counties have not been able to support health services without outside aid. Of the 946 counties, townships or districts with health service under whole-time local health officers at the close of 1936, 926, or 97.7 percent, were receiving financial assistance for the support of their health service from one or more of the following agencies: the state board of health, the United States Public Health Service, the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Red Cross, the American Women's Hospital Fund, the Rosenwald Fund, the Commonwealth Fund and the Milbank Memorial Fund."

April 12, 1938

Civil Service Examinations      The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: unassembled, Head Actuary, \$6,500, (vacancies in the position of Principal Actuary will also be filled as a result of this examination), Social Security Board; Senior Chemist (any specialized branch), \$4,600; Chemist (any specialized branch), \$3,800; Associate Chemist (any specialized branch), \$3,200; Senior Poultry Inspector, \$4,600, Poultry Inspector, \$3,800, Associate Poultry Inspector, \$3,200, Assistant Poultry Inspector, \$2,600, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; assembled, Assistant Chemist, \$2,600, Junior Chemist, \$2,000, optional subjects: advanced inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry. Applications for all positions, except Head Actuary, must be on file not later than May 2, if received from States other than those named in (b); (b) May 5, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. For Head Actuary, May 9 and May 12, respectively.

American Standards of Living      "Now, for the first time in our history, the business executive has a real measure of that market to which he must gear his production and distribution facilities," says Business Week (April 9). "An actual census survey of the American way of living, earning and spending is in the making to replace the guesses and long-shot estimates on which American business enterprise has fought its way to success. The first comprehensive results, specially arranged for the greatest utility to executives, are summarized in charts and are spread out in vast detail in tables which Business Week has prepared on the returns from 51 cities, 140 villages, and 64 farm counties whose figures tell the story. This basic documentary evidence of how the American family earns its living, how it spends its earnings, and what it wants for its money comes from a study of consumer purchases, launched in 1936 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Bureau of Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Unique in the magnitude of its territorial scope, as well as in the detail of its inquiry, that survey is the federal government's answer to the long-pressed demand of business for facts--not mere estimates--on the buying habits of American families of various sizes, at various income levels, in various parts of the country, under various degrees of urbanization, and in various types of farming..... Washington, now working on the results under the watchful attention of business research authorities who have followed the whole epoch-making survey with close attention, is convinced that the project has provided basic data, invaluable from both a business and a sociological point of view, that will stand for a long while to come."

Reindeer in Alaska      Since Congress made its first appropriation for the introduction and distribution of reindeer in Alaska, the reindeer herds of the Territory have increased from a few hundred to an estimated 700,000 or 800,000, Interior Department officials recently told the House Appropriations Committee. Because of their economic importance and their food value, development and distribution of reindeer herds are now a basic element in the Federal program of assistance to the widely scattered Eskimo population of Alaska. (N.Y.Times.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 9

Section 1

April 13, 1938

**DEPARTMENT SUPPLY BILL** The House began consideration yesterday of the 1939 Agricultural Department Supply Bill, carrying \$790,235,529 in appropriations and reappropriations, a decrease of \$72,575,684 from the current fiscal year and \$10,431,398 below budget estimates. The Appropriations Committee in reporting the bill, however, called attention to a reduction of \$87,000,000 in Federal road-aid funds, but advised that, since projects undertaken under the program were contractual obligations of the Federal Government, appropriations must be made later. This would bring the highway outlay close to the full \$150,000,000 appropriated last year. As it was, the committee followed the Budget Bureau's recommendations for a \$63,000,000 appropriation for the trunk highway system, against \$150,000,000 this year. The fund for feeder roads was increased \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000, and the item for grade crossing elimination was increased from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000. The total amount recommended was divided into \$603,630,524 for direct allowances, and \$186,605,000 in reappropriations. With \$154,524,065 in permanent appropriations which the committee is not authorized to change, the total amount recommended for next year was \$944,759,589. Soil Conservation benefits were cut by the committee from \$500,000,000 to \$485,000,000, but it said the department had estimated that not more than \$428,000,000 would be spent this year. (New York Times.)

**CUBA EXTENDS TARIFF TO CANADA** An Ottawa report by the Canadian Press says Cuba has extended to Canada its minimum tariff, the Dominion Government was informed yesterday. For the past two years the maximum tariff, double the minimum impost, has been applied to most of the goods entering that country from the Dominion. Canada's exports to Cuba in 1937 totaled \$1,868,343, as against \$1,343,896 in 1936. Canadian imports from Cuba were \$835,274, as against \$452,357 in 1936. The application of the minimum tariff does not affect the position in the Cuban market of the United States, which is still entitled to preferential rates, lower than the minimum tariff.

**CHICAGO GRAIN SHIPMENTS** Boats were loading over 800,000 bushels of corn at elevators in Chicago yesterday and are expected to clear for eastern ports, mainly Canadian, before the end of the week, says a report in the New York Times. There also were 650,000 bushels of wheat loaded out of elevators for eastern shipment, but part of this grain may not clear until next week. A steamer cleared on Monday with 284,000 bushels of corn for Sarnia, Ontario. The grain is said to be due to leave from Montreal on May 1 for Europe.

April 13, 1938

Marketing  
Law Data

The Works Progress Administration has announced the launching of a government survey which will not only endeavor to check price performance under the "fair trade" laws but to provide business with the first comprehensive report on what states have what kind of laws affecting what marketing practices. The Marketing Laws Survey will have the services of a dozen lawyers trained in WPA's Historical Records Survey to explore the mazes of legislation. "Fair trade" laws, unfair trade practices acts, anti-price discrimination measures, sales taxes, use taxes, truth-in-advertising laws, and ordinances governing the solicitation of business will be collated. The study will endeavor to point up inconsistencies between various state statutes affecting marketing and between them and federal laws. (Business Week, April 9.)

New Planters  
for Corn

"The Corn Belt is full of planters from 10 to 30 years old which still will plant three, or two, or four kernels to the hill, as set by the operator, do it with reasonable regularity provided plates are suitable to the seed, and produce an accurate check if the driver knows how to handle his wire and his drop-to-button adjustment in accordance with the pace of his team or span," says an editorial in Farm Implement News (April 7). "Yet we hazard the opinion that half the farmers could better afford to junk these planters and buy new ones than to plant this year's crop with the old machines... The old but usable planters do not have the modern type of band-spread fertilizer attachments developed within the past few years, and one of these new planters, barring a drouth year, should produce enough additional corn on each 40 acres, particularly with hybrid seed, to pay for the planter, with fertilizer attachment, and with tongue truck, plus a profit of 100 percent on the price of the planter the very first year. This is figuring an increase due to the fertilizer of 10 bushels to the acre with 60¢ corn. It might just as easily be a 30-bushel increase on medium fertile soil with hybrid seed and a good moist growing year. Under present conditions, these new planters will outproduce the old ones just the way the hybrid seed will run away from open-pollinated varieties. Modern planters are an investment, not an expense."

Now Floating  
Refrigeration

A new idea in carrying perishable fruits and vegetables to markets in the North was carried out in Knoxville, Tennessee, recently with the launching of a floating refrigerated warehouse, says a report in the New York Times. The huge streamlined barge contains equipment for keeping produce fresh for an indefinite period. Private transportation companies were reported keenly interested in the mammoth refrigerator and to be watching the test with a view to adopting the method. The craft is equipped to store and keep cold 350,000 pounds of produce, after being frozen. The floating warehouse can ply the waterways between Knoxville and Chicago, Cairo, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and many other northern points. This will permit distant growers to receive top prices by marketing at strategic periods.

April 13, 1938

Senate, Both Houses received a message from the President  
April 11 (H.Doc.583) recommending loans to railroads; ref. Senate  
Committee on Interstate Commerce and House Committee on  
Interstate and Foreign Commerce, (pp. 6787-6788 and 6835-6836).

The bill (S. 847) prohibiting Federal employees from being delegates to political conventions, etc., was made the unfinished business of the Senate (pp. 6825-6826).

The Senate recessed until Thursday, April 14.

House, The House received a supplemental estimate of appro-  
April 11 priation from the President (H. Doc. 584), of \$1,440,000,  
fiscal year 1938, for the Forest Service; ref. Committee  
on Appropriations (p. 6888).

Mr. Pierce addressed the House, opposing reciprocal trade agreements, especially with respect to farm products (pp. 6831-6833).

Mr. Hoffman spoke in opposition to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and charged that payments were made to farmers who have not complied with the provisions of the Act (pp. 6881-6882).

Item in Appendix: Address by Mr. Lord at Margaretville, N.Y., Mar. 25, "Wildlife in the United States is at the Cross Roads" (pp.6899-6901). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Changes in A. B. Hollingshead, Indiana University, writes in  
Rural Land the American Journal of Sociology (March) on "Changes in  
Ownership Land Ownership as an Index of Succession in Rural Communi-  
ties". The abstract of the article says: "The invasion-  
succession cycle so thoroughly investigated by students of urban sociology  
merits research by those interested in the rural community. The assump-  
tions used in a study of thirty-four rural Nebraska communities are (1)  
that changes in land ownership can be taken as an index of succession in  
middle western farm populations; (2) that the names of landowners reveal  
their nationality backgrounds. The specific problems investigated were  
fourfold: first, who were the original settlers; second, what changes  
have taken place in the nationality composition of landowners since 1800;  
third, the phases of succession; fourth, what factors have motivated the  
process. The original settlers were preponderantly of old American stock;  
interspersed among them in isolated neighborhoods were Germans, Czechs,  
Irish, Swedes, and Danes. By 1890 the foreigners had already begun to  
displace Americans in the neighborhoods where they had settled side by  
side, and to invade others. These groups have continued to expand until  
now they own almost all the land in thirty-one of the thirty-four communi-  
ties. The invasion-succession process is slowing down since the original  
settlers have passed on; and the younger generations have become, in the  
main, assimilated."

April 13, 1938

New Jersey  
Rural Life  
Survives

Willard H. Allen, Secretary of Agriculture of New Jersey, says in New Jersey Farm and Garden (April): "For more than 100 years the rural communities in New Jersey have been providing an excellent education, training and experience for their young people only to see them migrate to the city. Often there went with them much of the wealth produced on the farms of this state. Those sons and daughters who settled in the city usually became interested in city enterprises. The custom of dividing the estate among all heirs has meant financial hardships for those who remained on the farms trying to keep them productive and profitable and to hold their own against financial erosion as well as soil erosion. It is claimed that more than \$400,000,000 in rural wealth leaves the farms in America each year to cover the interest charges and to pay dividends as a result of this American method of dividing the estates of American farmers... Despite these serious inroads and the competition from the nearby cities... our farmers have prospered. During the last generation, the average farm in New Jersey has increased in net worth by more than seventy per cent. Where in 1900 the value of products produced on the farms of New Jersey was approximately \$43,000,000, the crops produced during the past year were worth \$93,000,000. We have seen the past generation of farmers treble the size of the farm flock and increase the value of eggs produced by more than \$10,000,000 annually. The dairy industry, with fewer cows, has increased production of milk during the same period by more than fifty-six percent. These farmers have produced greater yields an acre in all vegetables, including potatoes..."

Vitamin C  
Deficiency  
Prevalent

Deficiency of Vitamin C, the scurvy-preventing substance found abundantly in citrus fruits, is prevalent not only among the poor, who cannot afford orange juice, but also among the well-to-do, it was reported recently to the American College of Physicians, by Professor Irving S. Wright, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. "In our series of more than 200 cases of definite scurvy," Professor Wright reported, "we have seen cases in doctors or their families, and cases in nurses. More than 50 percent of our patients could easily afford the preventive citrus fruit. Many were wealthy. One owned a large orange grove. The causes of the disease, aside from poverty, were distaste for citrus fruits and other food containing large amounts of Vitamin C; allergic and gastro-intestinal sensitivity to such foods; diets prescribed by physicians for the treatment of ulcers, colitis, and other conditions; faddist diets; winter diets, and inability to utilize Vitamin C when taken by mouth." (New York Times.)

John Muir  
Centennial

The April issue of American Forests contains "The Centennial of John Muir--Man of the Mountains" by Charles Edgar Randall, of the Forest Service. The article is illustrated by photographs from the National Park Service.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 10

Section 1

April 14, 1938

**WHEAT ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS** The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced yesterday, State wheat acreage allotments under the 1938 farm program. The allotments will serve as the basis for payments to wheat growers from the \$500,000,000 soil conservation fund Congress is authorized to appropriate. The national allotment is 62,500,000 acres. It compares with an average of 70,868,920 acres seeded to wheat and diverted from the grain in the 1928-37 period. The largest State allotment, 12,519,879 acres, went to Kansas, the top ranking wheat State. (Associated Press.)

**APPROPRIATION FOR TB AND BANG'S DISEASE** The House increased the Department of Agriculture's 1939 Supply Bill yesterday by adding \$3,800,000 to the item for control of cattle tuberculosis and Bang's disease. The total for all items stood at \$76,375,684 as the House completed the reading of more than half of the bill and made ready to pass it today. The amendment increasing the cattle tuberculosis-control item was offered by Representative Withrow of Wisconsin, after many members had declared that Bang's disease and tuberculosis had caused immense losses during the past year to blooded herds. (New York Times.)

**RETIREMENT BILL REPORTED** The Senate Civil Service Committee yesterday voted to report the Neely government employee retirement bill, lowering the optional retirement age for civil service employees from two to four years. The Neely bill lowers the optional retirement age after 30 years of service to 58, 60 and 64, depending upon the grade of work done. The present corresponding law is 62, 65 and 68 years. The Civil Service Commission has opposed the Neely bill on grounds that 58 is too low an age for retirement, and that it made no provision for the Government to exercise an option on whether the employee shall retire when he becomes eligible. (Washington Post.)

**NEW WAGES AND HOURS BILL DRAFTED** A second new draft of a wages and hours bill, fixing an absolute wage floor and putting administration of the law in the hands of the Secretary of Labor was laid before the House Labor Committee yesterday by its chairman, Representative Norton, of New Jersey. As a result the committee when it meets today faces the prospect of choosing between this new measure and that submitted to it by a subcommittee headed by Representative Ramspeck of Georgia. (Press.)

April 14, 1938

Congress,  
April 12The Senate was not in session. Its next meeting is  
today.

The House began consideration of the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238), which had been reported from the House Committee on Appropriations (H.Rept.2130) (pp.6930, 6932-6966, and 6969). During the general debate, the following speeches were made: By Mr. Plumley: the achievements of Vermont as an agricultural State (pp.6933-6934); By Mr. Withrow: favoring larger appropriations for tuberculosis and Bang's disease (pp. 6936-6937); By Mr. Gifford: criticizing the Greenbelt project (pp. 6937-6939); By Mr. Dirksen: the country's progress, especially in the agricultural field (pp. 6939-6943); By Mr. Mahon of Tex.: the one-variety cotton program, in which he inserted part of a speech on this subject by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Brown and a table showing one-variety cotton production by States (pp. 6943-6944); By Mr. Wood: favoring increased appropriations for farm tenancy relief (pp. 6944-6945); By Mr. Martin of Mass.: opposing reciprocal trade agreements (pp. 6949-6961); and By Mr. Ferguson: favoring restoration of the following items to the Budget figure: dry-land agriculture and forage crops and diseases.

Mr. Johnson of Okla. spoke in favor of larger appropriations for farm-tenancy relief (pp. 6967-6968).

Items in Appendix: Speech by Mr. Treadway before Republican Women's Club, N.Y., April 7, entitled "The Position of the Republican Minority in Congress on Taxation and the Tariff", (pp. 6976-6979). Extension of remarks of Mr. Schneider of Wis., opposing section 307 of the revenue bill, which amends the Filled Cheese Act (including letter from Secretary C. W. Holman of the National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation) (pp. 6986-6987). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Mechanical  
Cotton  
Chopper

A staff writer of the American Cotton Grower (April) reports that "a mechanical cotton chopper....has been used in many parts of the Cotton Belt for the past two seasons.

The models now being offered are available in two models--one-row and two-row--both equipped with rubber tires. The 'chopping' part of the machine, which resembles a planter, is a revolving set of four blades that cut into the ground at the proper depth. These blades can be adjusted to leave any desired space between the cotton plants. An improvement on earlier models is a spring which protects the blades from rocks and stumps. The machine is pulled by team or tractor...Only a few of the choppers were manufactured in 1936, but 1937 saw more than one hundred at work in the fields in thirteen states and several foreign countries...Some users attested not only the labor saved, but claimed that the blades not only blocked out the cotton satisfactorily but cultivated the drill row and left the mulch in the drill to protect the cotton from the sun. Others who have observed the machine in action point

out that while it operates nicely and will chop cotton plants to hills where there is a uniform stand of plants spaced not more than one inch apart, it is difficult to get a stand of cotton plants so spaced. The widespread distribution of the machines over the belt will enable most cotton farmers to see the machines in action and judge its merits for themselves."

April 14, 1938

Plan World Organization of Science      Plans are being laid by the American and British Associations for the Advancement of Science for the organization of international cooperation among scientists on a wider scale than exists at present. A conference, either of British and American representatives alone, or a larger meeting of scientific leaders from all countries interested, is tentatively scheduled for this summer. The present moves for formal cooperation originate from a resolution passed by the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its meeting last December. The stage for this action had been set by the emphasis upon "science and society" provided by the 1936 and 1937 meetings of the British Association. (Science Service.

School for Farm Adults      The Traverse City high school is one of 20 vocational agriculture departments in Michigan that is carrying on a course of adult education in agriculture. This course is designed to give systematic instruction in soils to "operating farmers" of this trade area and covers 12 90-minute periods of instruction. The enrollment in the class this year was 58. Many of the members had 100 percent attendance at the class periods, some driving 20 miles or more to attend the course through some of northern Michigan's most wintry days. The school has served farmers in two counties and is made possible by the cooperation of the agricultural extension agents. The age of the scholars range from 21 to 61. Ninety percent of the class members own farms and only 10 percent are renters or workers. (Michigan Farmer, April 9.)

Fruit and Vegetable Market      More adequate wholesale and jobbing markets would materially reduce the \$1,500,000,000 paid each year for the handling of fruits and vegetables from the producer to the consumer, according to a report on terminal market conditions, "Wholesale Markets for Fruits and Vegetables in 40 Cities" (Circ. 463), made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Changes in market buildings and facilities, the study indicates, often have failed to keep pace with the changing buying habits of consumers, the increased costs of marketing, the expanding use of motor truck transportation, and chain-store methods of purchase and sales. Of the estimated \$2,500,000,000 that consumers spend each year for fruits and vegetables, about 40 percent goes to the producer. The other 60 percent pays the costs of transportation and wholesale and retail handling.

Bibliography on Land Use      A selected Bibliography on Land Utilization, 1918-1936, including more than 7,300 references to works dealing with problems of land utilization in both the United States and foreign countries, has been published by the Department. The bibliography, compiled by Louise O. Bercaw and Annie M. Hannay of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, under the direction of Mary G. Lacy, Bureau Librarian, is in three main parts: (1) General publications covering both the United States and foreign markets; (2) references relating to the United States; and (3) references relating to foreign countries.

Manure aids in reducing soil erosion, says G.W. Conrey, in charge of the Ohio Soil Survey. From 1 to 2 inches less soil were lost in 42 years from continuous culture plots which had received an annual application of 5 tons of manure per acre than from those which received no manure. Data from studies recently made on the fertility experiment plots at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster show that on a 3 percent slope, wheat plots which have been cropped continuously since 1895 have lost  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches (840 tons) of soil where they have received an annual application of 5 tons of manure. On plots that have received no manure applications,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches (1150 tons) of soil were lost. Manure aids directly in soil conservation by giving to the soil a somewhat greater power to absorb water. This decreases the amount of water which can run off the surface and allows it to penetrate the soil. Manure aids indirectly by increasing the density of the cover crops. Good cover not only lessens the intensity of the rainfall on the surface of the earth but it also aids in the absorption of water because of the presence of numerous root channels. (Hoard's Dairyman, April 10.)

Selling Milk on Food Values      George C. White, professor of dairy industry at Connecticut (Storrs) Experiment Station, writes in New England Homestead (April 9) on "Selling Milk on Food Value". He describes developments in dairy and nutritional science which, he believes, clear the path for a new plan of marketing, and says in the concluding paragraphs: "The core of this marketing plan is the consumer. Oddly enough he has rarely been in a position to express his desires in the milk market. Many will say 'he demanded' a deeper cream line. But did he, really? Didn't he simply choose deeper cream line when offered to him at the same price, or for less than he had been paying? The consumer is not expected to pay the same price for all portions of a beef carcass. In fact, there is a price range and a choice in most all articles that he buys. Perhaps he would be better off if there were fewer choices when these could be eliminated, but this is not true of milk. Why should he be expected to pay just one stated price for all milk, when it is known that there is so much difference in primary food value based on its composition?"

Farm Fire Prevention      "Fire Safeguards for the Farm," (F.B.1643) is the title of a new pamphlet issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Safeguarding the farmstead falls into three classes, according to the bulletin: The exercise of forethought in the construction, maintenance and repair of farm structures; preparedness in the form of simple fire-fighting equipment; and community preparedness and organization to check large fires or prevent their spread to other buildings. (The Ohio Farmer, April 9.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 11

Section 1

April 15, 1938

**DEPARTMENT  
SUPPLY BILL**

After moving the Agriculture Department's 1939 Supply Bill to a position for passage, the House decided late yesterday to postpone final action until the Roads Committee could prepare amendments, including about \$101,000,000 additional for the highway program in line with President Roosevelt's recommendation. Final action on the bill was postponed until Tuesday when Representative Cartwright, chairman of the Roads Committee, is expected to bring in amendments prepared by the committee. They will conform to the President's recommendation that funds be supplied only to those projects which could be started immediately and finished within a year or so. If adopted, the amendments will bring the total for the Bureau of Public Roads to about \$201,000,000. (New York Times.).

**ELECTRICAL  
APPLIANCES  
FOR FARMS**

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, announced yesterday that the Electric Home and Farm Authority was prepared to assist utilities and dealers in electrical appliances by purchasing installment contracts covering the wiring and rewiring of homes and farms. "The authority will also purchase, under certain conditions, installment paper now in the hands of utilities, covering the sale of electrical appliances where the purchase will maintain or increase employment through new construction operations," he said. (Press.)

**DISTRIBUTION  
OF FRUITS AND  
VEGETABLES**

The problem of reducing the loss of 60 cents of the consumer's dollar in distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables was discussed last night at the National League of Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Distributors at the Chesapeake Club, says a report in the Baltimore Sun. Solutions were offered in the unification of railroad terminals and in huge regional markets with storage rooms and refrigerators. The hitch was found in the cost and the time involved. Among the speakers was Dr. Frederick V. Waugh, of the marketing division of the United States Department of Agriculture.

**FTC MILK  
DECISION**

The Federal Trade Commission yesterday asserted the right of New York State milk producers to organize as they please by filing a complaint against Gold Medal Farms, Inc., wholesale milk dealers in New York City, charging the company with opposing the affiliation of dairymen in the area of Buskirk, N.Y., with the Metropolitan Cooperative Milk Producers Bargaining Agency, Inc. (New York Times.)

April 15, 1938

Half Century at Illinois Station "A half century of resultful service to Illinois farmers, homemakers and consumers was marked on March 25 in exercises commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station," says F.J. Keilholz, Agricultural Editor, University of Illinois, in the Prairie Farmer (Apr. 9). "Hundreds of leading farm men and women, public officials, representatives of farm business, professional and industrial groups closely associated with agriculture, members of the press and radio and others gathered for the ceremonies... Climaxing the day's program, M. L. Wilson, Under Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, spoke concerning the bearing of agricultural research on national welfare and the welfare of farm people... Organization of the Illinois station took place on March 21, 1883, under terms of the Hatch Act... In the 50 years which have elapsed since that time, farmers and the general public have realized inestimable benefits as a result of the station's work dealing with the conservation of land resources as a continuing source of wealth, reduction of production and marketing costs, improvement in the quality of food and feed products, adjustment of production to demand, expansion of market outlets for farm products and, in general, the development of a happy, contented citizenry enjoying more adequate living standards..."

Today's Tractor The leading article in the Ohio Farmer (April 9) is "Today's Tractor", by G. W. McCuen. He says in part: "The tractor we now have is indeed versatile. It has four outlets or ways of furnishing power, namely, 'pull' at the draw-bar, 'push' for the cultivator, 'turn' for the belt and 'twist' for the power take-off. Each of these has made it possible to approach the more complete motorization of farm work. Last January first we completed a five-year test run under actual field conditions of a set of tires used on a tractor on the University Farm. The five seasons gave us a total use of 3607 hours. The tread was fair at the end of that period. The original weight of the two tires was 196.7 pounds. These tires lost 17.2 pounds of rubber in five years. On examining them we found the carcasses of the tires to be in excellent condition so we had them retreaded at a cost of \$66.20. The weight of the retreaded tires now stands at 241 pounds, or 44.3 pounds more than when the original tires were first put into service. It is believed that these retreaded tires will give an equal number of hours of use or a total of at least 7200 hours. We feel that the reason for the carcasses of these tires being in such excellent condition was the fact that the inflation was carefully checked and maintained throughout the entire five years of use."

Calendar Reform The leading article in the March issue of the Journal of Calendar Reform is "Farmer and His Calendar" by Louis J. Taber, Master, National Grange.

Congress,  
April 13

The Senate was not in session.

The House continued debate on the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H. R. 10238) (pp. 7000-7023). The bill was read for amendment as far as the Bureau of Biological Survey (p. 63 of the bill). The following amendments were agreed to: By Mr. Withrow: Increasing the item for eradicating tuberculosis and Bang's disease (B.A.I.) from \$1,603,000 to \$5,403,000 (pp. 7011-7017). The following amendments were rejected: By Mr. Ferguson: Increasing the item for dry-land agriculture (B.P.I.) from \$211,828 to \$226,828 (pp. 7018-7019). By Mr. Ferguson: Increasing the item for forage crops and diseases (B.P.I.) from \$294,993 to \$304,993 (pp. 7019-7020). By Mr. Fulmer: Inserting an item (Forest Service) of \$2,000,000 for cooperation with States in regard to forest lands under the Fulmer Act (p. 7020). By Mr. Voorhis: Increasing the item for forest influences (Forest Service) from \$111,152 to \$139,152 (pp. 7018-7020). By Mr. Taber: Reducing the item for acquisition of forest lands (Forest Service) from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000 (pp. 7021-7022). By Mr. Peterson of Fla.: Increasing the item for industrial utilization of farm products and byproducts (C. and S.) from \$236,200 to \$246,200 (pp. 7022-7023). By Mr. Phillips: Increasing the item for Japanese beetle control (E. and P.Q.) from \$369,000 to \$500,000 (pp. 7023-7024). By Mr. Eaton: Increasing the item for Dutch-elm-disease eradication from \$303,489 to \$1,000,000..... (pp. 7024-7026). By Mr. Bacon: Increasing the item for Dutch-elm-disease eradication to \$378,489 (pp. 7026-7027).

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. O'Connell of Mont., "Processing tax refunds must not go to professional racketeers (pp. 7036-7038). Speech by Mr. Fletcher in the House, April 12, favoring H.R. 9659, regarding statistics of cottonseed (p. 7046). Extension of remarks of Mr. Rutherford, "Importing farm products makes idle acres in America" (p. 7047). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Cultivated Blueberries      J. H. Putnam, writing in New England Homestead (Apr. 9) on "Cultivated Blueberries" says in part: "For many years the high bush blueberry was considered as not responding to cultivation. The late Dr. Coville of the United States Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with Miss Elizabeth White of New Jersey, conducted breeding experiments selecting the best wild varieties obtainable and hybridizing these. At the same time, extensive experiments were conducted in the propagation, cultivation and fertilization of blueberry plants. About 20 years ago these experiments began to bring results and today we find these cultivated blueberries extensively cultivated in New Jersey, North Carolina, Michigan and occasionally in New England. Mr. Houston of Hanover, Mass., is one of the largest growers and is succeeding on upland soil which, however, has a water table close to the surface. Mr. Carlson of Sandwich, Mass., is growing them on bog land. The station at Wareham has them on typical cranberry soil and the station at Amherst is growing them on typical moist hill soil. Dirks of Montague, Mass., has a very successful, though small, plantation on the same type of soil."

Waterfowl Poachers Field and Stream (May) says: "The high-handed piracy of waterfowl poachers has apparently struck a new high all along the Atlantic seaboard. As partial evidence, Federal investigation agents of the Bureau of Biological Survey have confiscated more than 500 duck traps in Maryland and Virginia marshes, and released hundreds of wild waterfowl which otherwise would have been brazenly peddled via game bootleg markets... When a corn-baited trap is capable of taking from 40 to 50 ducks in a single night, one can well imagine what the illicit haul from 500 of them can amount to in a year's time. There are other type snares, too, which are harder to locate--underwater devices which drown the ducks. Even gill nets are employed by these wholesale waterfowl poachers who ply their trade day in and day out during closed season. The Biological Survey deserves a full measure of credit for the work it is doing, and has done, in stamping out this element in areas where ducks congregate. The Bureau has gone a long way toward breaking up game bootleg rings throughout the country. But there is much more work to be done, and being handicapped by a lack of wardens necessary to cover all points, the Bureau cannot do it alone. What is needed (and what has been lacking in many instances) is the complete cooperation of sportsmen, the public and local officials hired to protect game..."

Naming Fruits and Nuts The American Fruit Grower (April) prints a revised code of nomenclature of the American Pomological Society, and says in part: 'The committee has brought the code up-to-date to make it more nearly conform to modern pomological usage and to clarify certain procedures relative to the naming of bud sports which have been introduced during the past few years. Nurseries, experiment station workers, the trade, and the general public all have a stake in naming new varieties. The activity along this line at present is widespread throughout the United States and Canada, and unusual care is needed to prevent the duplication of names and the renaming of varieties, and thus avoid confusion in the dissemination of new varieties."

Foil-Wrapped Lettuce Top-quality head lettuce, marked for shipment to big city luxury shops, is going to town in costumes of gold and silver. Wrapped in metallic foil veneered with wax, these swanky heads hit the buyer harder, fetch higher prices. And they're worth more. Tests conducted recently in California show that naked lettuce loses 28.6 percent of moisture after twenty-one days of storage, while heads wrapped in foil lose less than one percent. (Country Home Magazine, April .)

World's Fair Dairy Exhibit Two hundred dairy cows will be put through their milking paces three times daily at a \$500,000 dairy exhibit to be built by the Borden Company as part of the New York World's Fair of 1939. Ten cows will be washed and milked at a time and then returned to their stalls, while ten more cows take their places in an exhibition to be kept up 24 hours a day, officials of the fair say. The herd and its care will form part of an exhibition that goes through the entire process of preparing milk for the big-city consumer. (Science Service.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 12

Section 1

April 18, 1938

AMERICAN COTTON  
ASSN. COMMENDED

The American Cotton Cooperative Association was commended Friday by W. I. Myers, governor of the Farm Credit Administration, which has lent millions of dollars of Federal funds to the association. The commendation was in testimony before the Senate Agriculture Committee's investigation of the cooperative. Mr. Myers said that his agency, set up in May, 1933, had "found no good reason" against eligibility of the cooperative for government loans. Investigators for the committee had charged that it was not a true cooperative group and had disputed claims of membership advanced by it and its affiliated State and regional associations. (Associated Press.)

NEW YORK  
MILK CO-OP.

New York's first city-wide milk cooperative and the first direct partnership between consumers and dairy farmers in the East will begin operation soon, selling milk to its members at the lowest prevailing marketing price, it was learned yesterday. The aim of the organization will be "to stabilize the price of milk throughout the year and to prevent the imposition of unwarranted price increases on the consumer." The new organization is the Consumer-Farmer Milk Cooperative, Inc. The cooperative will sell only Grade B milk through stores acting as agents for a fixed fee. (New York Times.)

MEXICAN SURTAX,  
SUGAR CO-OP.

"Mexico has agreed to remove the 3 percent surtax on imports which was collectible by Mexican consuls abroad before shipment of the articles to Mexico," reports Frank L. Kluckhohn in a Mexico City wireless to the New York Times. "A promise to this effect has been transmitted to Washington through diplomatic channels. This surtax, which was established on September 15, 1937, has been attacked vigorously by United States exporters, who have held it represented a tax that was collected within the territorial confines of another country...." A press report from Mexico City says the establishment of a national sugar cooperative to handle all sugar refining in Mexico, to fix prices and generally to control the sugar industry, was announced by the Mexican government Saturday night as it pushed forward its socialization campaign. The new organization will be known as the National Union of Credit for Sugar.

I.I.A. MEETING

M. L. Wilson, Under-Secretary of Agriculture, was appointed Friday, chairman of the United States delegation to the meeting of the general assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome on May 23. (Press.)

April 18, 1938

**Living Trees Moved to World's Fairs** "Florida orange groves at the Century of Progress in Chicago, in the heart of Rockefeller Center, New York City, and on the shores of Lake Erie in Cleveland during the expositions of the past five years have made the seemingly impossible task of moving tropical trees to the north a matter of routine work out of which methods valuable to all landscape engineers have developed," says Foster Barnes, Florida Exhibits Landscape Engineer, in Florida Grower (April). "...Hitherto the size of a tree to be moved has been limited by the clearance of a box car. For the World's Fair, however, it is going to be possible to ship trees by boat so we plan to move orange trees as tall as sixteen feet, giving visitors a chance to see some of Florida's finest citrus trees...On the exhibit grounds a soil test is made every week. It has been found necessary to have drains under every tree because the water seeps in from the alkaline soil outside the box through our porous soil. More than a hundred varieties of tropical trees and plants will be taken to the New York World's Fair. Those tropical fruit trees which are already popular and others which have the best prospect of being used commercially, such as the papaya, the avocado, the mango, and the guava, are to be given an important place. Rare varieties will be used for decorative purposes. The sausage tree, the carambola, the sugar apple, the sapodilla, the akee, the rose apple, the Monstera deliciosa, the sapote and the zizyphus tree always attract attention..."

**Lecture on Agroecology** Dr. Basil Rensin, an internationally known agroecologist, will present a special illustrated lecture on "Agroecology as a Basic Science of Agriculture". This should be of interest to all working in the field of regional agricultural planning and conservation. The lecture will be in the Auditorium, Friday, April 22, from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. There will be no charge.

**Wisconsin Ban On Oleo** The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Markets advised the John F. Jelke Co., Chicago, manufacturers of oleomargarine, that it will refuse to grant a license permitting the sale of a product or compound in imitation of yellow butter. The department contends that the sale of a product recently found on various markets throughout Wisconsin is in violation of the statutes relating to imitation of cheese and butter. (Milk Plant Monthly, April.)

**Ancient Lotus Seeds** Oriental lotus plants are being grown from seeds estimated to be from 300 to 500 years old, at the Field Museum of Natural History. The seeds were obtained from soil that had once been a lake bottom in southern Manchuria, near Port Arthur. Records show that the lake was drained some time between 160 and 250 years ago, and since then large willow trees have grown up on the ancient lake bed. The seeds, which were presented to the museum by the University of Chicago, are believed to be the oldest seeds ever made to sprout. (Science Service.)

Senate, Both Houses received a message from the President  
 April 14 making recommendations as to relief and unemployment (H.  
 Doc. 594); ref. Committees on Appropriations, (pp. 7059-  
 7061). The President recommends emergency appropriations totaling  
\$3,012,000,000, among which are the following: Farm Security Administra-  
tion, \$175,000,000; Civilian Conservation Corps, \$50,000,000; highways,  
\$100,000,000; Flood Control, \$37,000,000; and Federal buildings, \$25,000,000.

The Senate refused to reconsider the vote by which S.3428, the Bulkley transcontinental-superhighways bill, was taken from the Committee on Banking and Currency and referred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads (pp. 7067-7071).

The Senate began debate on a motion by Mr. Duffy to recede from the Senate amendment to H.R.8837 (Independent Offices Appropriation Bill) to authorize the use of oleomargarine in veterans' hospitals (pp. 7091-7093).

Mr. Barkley inserted in the Record a table showing emergency expenditures (1933-1937) by States and major purposes (pp. 7063-7066).

The Senate is in recess from April 16 to April 19.

House, The House continued debate on the Agricultural Approp-  
 April 14 priation Bill for 1938 (H.R.10238) (pp. 7102-7132). The  
 following amendments were agreed to: By Mr. Kleberg: Increasing the item for eradication of cattle ticks (B.A.I.) from \$503,940 to \$903,940 (pp. 7112-7116). By Mr. Case of S.D.: Inserting an item of \$1,000,000 under B.B.S. (pp. 7105-7106 and 7115-7116). By Mr. Johnson of Okla.: Increasing the item for relief of farm tenancy from \$15,000,000 to \$25,000,000 (pp. 7122-7127). By Mr. Tarver: Reappropriating the unexpended balance of the 1938 appropriation for farm tenancy relief (p. 7128). By Mr. Dempsey: Limiting the amount which can be spent on any one project under the appropriation for water facilities in arid and semi-arid areas to \$15,000 (pp. 7128-7131). This limitation was later raised to \$25,000 by unanimous consent (p. 7132).

The following provisions were stricken from the bill on points of order made by Mr. Taber: \* Interchange of Appropriations proviso (p. 7131). The following amendments were rejected: By Mr. Whittington: Increasing the item for agricultural engineering (B.A.Eng.) from \$401,200 to \$417,400 (pp. 7116-7119). By Mr. McGhee: Inserting an item of \$1,000,000 for the Commerce Department for finding new markets for agricultural products, etc. (pp. 7119-7121). By Mr. Taber: Striking out the \$5,000,000 item for crop insurance (pp. 7121-7122).

\*Authorizing the Beltsville Research Center to buy an automobile (pp. 7131).

(House, cont.)

The bill (S. 1998) to amend the act providing for collection and publication of statistics on peanuts, which was reported from the Committee on Agriculture August 6, 1937, was recommitted to the Committee on request of Mr. Cooley (p. 7109).

The House Committee on Agriculture reported the following bills with amendment: S. 842, providing for an investigation and report of losses resulting from the campaign for eradication of the Mediterranean fruit fly by the Department of Agriculture (H.Rept. 2142); H.R. 2001, providing for an investigation and report of losses resulting from the campaign for eradication of the Mediterranean fruit fly by the Department of Agriculture (H.Rept. 2143).

The House Committee on Agriculture reported the following bill without amendment: H.R. 6830, to prohibit the exportation of tobacco seed and plants except for experimental purposes (H.Rept. 2144).

The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce reported out with amendment S. 5, the food and drug bill (H.Rept. 2139) (p. 7136).

The House received from the President a supplemental estimate of appropriation, 1939, of \$101,500,000 for Bureau of Public Roads (p. 7136) (H.Doc. 591).

The House adjourned until April 18.

Items in appendix: radio address of the President broadcast from the White House April 14, on relief and unemployment problems (pp. 7138-7140); extension of remarks of Mr. Johnson of Minnesota, "Normal Crop Sales in the Northwest as Provided by the Federal Crop Insurance Program" (pp. 7153-7154); extension of remarks of Mr. Colmer, "Sweetpotatoes--A New Cash Crop for South Mississippi" (pp. 7169-7171).

Bills approved by President: H.R. 7836, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act, <sup>as amended</sup> including hops. Approved April 13, 1938 (Public No. 482, 75th Congress); H.J.Res. 567, to authorize the President to invite the International Seed Testing Association to hold its 9th Congress in the United States in 1940 and to provide for United States participation in the Congress. Approved April 8, 1938. (Public Resolution No. 85, 75th Congress).

Senate, April 15 The Senate receded from its amendment to permit the use of oleomargarine in veterans' hospitals (in Ind. Of. Ap. Bill) (pp. 7182-7196).

Messrs. Hayden and Truman submitted amendments to S. 3309, authorizing appropriations for federal highways; referred Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads (p. 7181). The Senate recessed until April 19. The House was not in session; its next meeting is today.

Item in appendix: article by Judson King in March 31 Public Utilities Fortnightly on rural electrification (pp. 7202-7204). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

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Vol. LXIX, No. 13

Section 1

April 19, 1938

**CHEMICAL  
INDUSTRY**

Provisional plans of the chemical industry, third largest in American manufacturing, to spend \$100,000,000 to expand production plants were reported yesterday to the American Chemical Society. Dr. D. P. Morgan of New York, chemical and statistical expert, said "if" the chemical industry is let alone, this expansion will come within eighteen months, adding that uncertainties about taxes and wages are among causes of delay. Last year chemistry spent \$100,000,000 on expansion but has now cut this spending rate to about 20 percent. (Associated Press.)

**SOVIET GRAIN  
ACREAGE**

A Moscow report by the Associated Press says mechanics are busy repairing tractors and farm machinery throughout the Soviet Union for a drive to grow more grain on fewer acres in 1938. Encouraged by a bumper crop last year, officially estimated at 122,400,000 tons, the authorities have reduced the grain area by 7,329,725 acres. The total sown area is to be expanded by 4,235,000 acres, to a total of 290,703,000 acres, but virtually all the increase will be devoted to the raising of hay and other forage crops for development of the livestock industry. All but 1 percent of the sown area last year lay in collective farms, Soviet statistics show.

**"SOILLESS PLANT"**

**LECTURE**

Plant growers, amateur and professional, in Baltimore will be able this afternoon to hear the latest about growing plants without soil from the originator of the method, Dr. William F. Gericke, of the University of California. Dr. Gericke will speak in Room 1, Remsen Hall, (Johns Hopkins), at 4 o'clock. The lecture is open to the public. Fifty slides showing the plants and equipment used in this system will be used. (Baltimore Sun.)

**FOREIGN TRADE**

**FREIGHT RATES**

Spokesmen for foreign trade interests of the port district in New York City urged fast and frequent service to foreign ports and freight rate schedules low enough to meet foreign competition at the opening yesterday morning of a hearing before the Maritime Commission. Shippers cited instances wherein their European rivals were able to reach markets at an advantage over Americans because of freight-rate differentials. Freight conferences with a membership of American and foreign lines are controlled by the foreign interests, they charged, with resulting effect on rates detrimental to American Trade. (New York Times.)

April 19, 1938

Grassland  
Improvement

The Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture (London, April) in an item on the improvement of grassland, says in part: "No branch of agricultural research has made such progress in recent years as that dealing with the improvement and management of grassland. Further, the findings of research are now ripe for adoption by farmers, who are realizing more and more that grassland, properly managed, may in most areas be greatly improved in production value, with an economic return. Improved leafy strains of grasses are now becoming increasingly available, and the 'management' methods that aim at securing the greatest crop at its highest level of food value, are now better understood. In view of this increased attention now being devoted to grassland, a new edition of the Ministry's Bulletin No. 3, 'The Improvement of Grassland' prepared by Professor J. A. Hanley, A.R.C.S., Ph.D., has just been issued. In addition to dealing with the findings of research, considerable attention is devoted in the bulletin to the relative values of the methods of conserving grass--hay-making, ensilage and the more recently introduced grass drying."

Control of  
Sex Ratio

In an original article, "The Experimental Control of the Sex Ratio" in Science Progress (April, London), Arthur Walton, School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge, considers three possible methods. He concludes that "parthenogenesis in the mammal still offers too great difficulties to be considered practicable even in the near future." He reviews briefly sex reversal in invertebrates and birds, but says "similar operations on the mammalian embryo have been attempted and no doubt progress will be made, but at present sex reversal as a practical method of sex control must be regarded as visionary." He comments on long distance transport of semen and says, "from Washington, U.S.A., bull semen has been sent to Buenos Aires--a journey which took seven days." In a summary paragraph he says: "Although the majority of experiments have as yet yielded negative or doubtful results there is some evidence that under certain conditions as yet unspecified, there is a differential mortality of one or the other of the two sorts of spermatozoa. If subsequent research can elucidate these conditions sex control by means of gametic separation and artificial insemination might become practicable."

Radio on  
Tractor

"George A. Reed, Douglas county, Nebraska, operates a 6-cylinder general purpose tractor that comes equipped with lights, starter and battery," says Capper's Farmer (April). "It was easy to install a radio and hook it to the tractor battery. The tractor runs quietly, interferes little with reception, and earphones are not necessary.... Time passes rapidly, especially at night, when you can sit and listen to a good radio program as you work,' Reed said. 'You can listen to news broadcasts and market reports in the daytime...'

April 19, 1938

Civil Service Examinations      The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: / <sup>assembled</sup> Junior Auditor, Income Tax Unit, \$2,600 (Internal Revenue Agent) Bureau of Internal Revenue, optional branches: flour milling, insurance, lumber milling and manufacturing, meat packing, petroleum production and refining, public utilities, textile manufacturing, tobacco processing and manufacturing; Alphabetic Card-Punch Operator, \$1,260. Applications must be on file not later than: (a) junior auditor, May 9, card punch operator, May 16, if received from states other than those named in (b); (b) junior auditor, May 12, card punch operator, May 19, if received from Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming.

Corrosion of Soil      A. B. Beaumont, in a letter to Science (April 15) says: "In the present commendable movement toward the conservation of the nation's soil resources major emphasis is rightly being placed on the losses through the action of physical forces, that is, on the wastage of soil through erosion by wind and water. However, in some sections of the country soil deterioration through losses of soil organic matter, lime and plant nutrients caused by chemical actions is more important than that effected by the physical forces of erosion. The visible effect of soil degradation through chemical action is usually less spectacular than that caused by physical erosion, but it is not less real in respect to the productivity of the land....It is the interest of conservation in its broad interpretation to cause a reduction where possible in soil losses through chemical action and a replacement of unavoidable losses by the use of soil amendments. Soil deterioration or wastage through chemical action may be expressed by the word corrosion, in contrast with soil wastage by physical forces, or erosion. Corrosion is already in use by geologists to some extent to express virtually the same idea as that suggested."

Reflectorized Highways      Engineering News-Record (April 14) says in an editorial: "Praiseworthy pioneering is being done by Michigan in the reflector-marking of the Detroit-Lansing highway and its planned extension...So long as full and adequate illumination of the road cannot be had, the roadbuilder can at least provide assurance that the unpaved shoulder is not dangerously close and supply a guide to the alignment of the road. Curb marking has only begun to receive attention on even the most congested routes. Alignment marking is realized for the first time in the Michigan installation.. It carries forward into wholly new service the effective use of reflectors for direction arrows and other special warning signs that already are in wide use. In principle it is like the line of reflectors embedded in the curb now being installed on the new Merrick parkway in Connecticut and experimentally in other states, but it gives promise of much larger usefulness. At low cost and with little operating or upkeep expense it provides a compelling guide action from which a large gain in night safety may be expected."

April 19, 1938

REA Loans                    Oscar W. Meier, author of "REA Program Makes Progress" for Plumbing in Agricultural Engineering (April) describes the group bidding plan for contractors, and says: "REA is permitted to make loans for plumbing installations...The first group bidding project on plumbing has just recently been developed in connection with the Caldwell, North Carolina, project. The survey of this project showed quite an active interest in the plumbing program because of the success experienced with the group wiring plan. As a result, a survey was made and a proposal submitted to contractors. Under the group bid made on this project, the plumbing installations will be installed at a lower cost than the actual cost of materials alone, of like kind and quality, if bought by the customers individually at the best price quotations available to them from any source. An interesting feature of this particular effort was the expressed desire of farmers who have had electric service for years from an existing utility, but had never installed water systems, to be included in this group plan..."

Prolactin in Crystalline Form                    Isolation of the first crystalline hormone from the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland, and its identification as prolactin, the hormone of mother love, was disclosed by the American Chemical Society at the society's annual spring meeting at Dallas, Texas, recently. The crystalline hormone from the pituitary promises to open up a new gateway to the study of the functioning of the "master gland" in man and animals. Prolactin was originally discovered by Dr. Oscar Riddle of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, who found it to be the agent controlling the secretion of milk in nursing animals. Dr. Riddle demonstrated the hormone to play also an important psychological role when he found that injections of the hormone caused rats to nurse squabs instead of making a meal out of them. Dr. Riddle's experiments were the first to show that the ferocious native instincts of a wild animal to kill and devour could be changed into tenderness and a desire to preserve by a chemical substance manufactured by the pituitary gland. (New York Times.)

Cantaloup No. 45 Mildew Resistant                    The Utah Farmer (April 10) says: "When the cantaloup crop starts moving about May 1 more than 90 percent of the crop from the Imperial Valley of California and the Salt River Valley of Arizona--areas that normally produce more than half the commercial crop--will be the new Mildew Resistant Cantaloup No. 45, introduced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the California Agricultural Experiment Station. Between 25,000 and 30,000 acres were planted to the new variety last year. The two areas shipped more than 10,000 cars in 1937. Department scientists, keeping a close check on the new variety as it arrived in New York, found that eastern consumers, on the average, received the best quality cantaloups ever shipped from the irrigated regions. These melons had the flavor that only vine-ripening can give. Most of the cantaloups were precooled before starting the 9-day transcontinental trip and little loss was incurred. Most of the cantaloups examined held in good condition 4 to 5 days after arrival--a desirable characteristic of this variety. The principal reason for the immediate popularity of the No. 45, other than shipping quality, is its resistance to powdery mildew..."

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 14

Section 1

April 20, 1938

POTASSIUM  
ISOTOPES  
AND CANCER

New discoveries as to cancer found through a new kind of chemistry, were reported to the American Chemical Society yesterday by Dr. A. Keith Brewer of the United States Bureau of Chemistry and Soils. The discovery is a peculiar use made of the poisonous metal potassium by the human body. This may be a clue to the cause of cancer, Dr. Brewer said, or only an effect. But it is definitely connected with rapid growth, of the cancerous type. The new work is cooperative, between Washington and Manchester, England. The cancerous tissues are furnished by the University of Manchester Cancer Research Laboratory. The chemical analyses are made by Dr. Brewer. The new chemistry has found that there are three atomic unit weights of potassium: 39, 40 and 41. Numbers 39 and 41 furnish the new cancer clue. In healthy flesh these two "isotopes" of potassium exist in the ration of about fourteen to one. But in cancer there is less of the heavyweight potassium. The decrease is 6 to 7 percent. (Associated Press.)

ROAD FUNDS  
INCREASED

The House passed the Agriculture Department Appropriation Bill yesterday with a total of \$895,535,529 including an increase of \$62,000,000 in Federal-aid highway funds to a total of \$125,000,000. Another \$10,000,000 was added to the bill as reported from committee for the construction of feeder roads. Still other increases included \$20,000,000 additional for grade crossings, an extra \$7,000,000 for forest roads and trails, and a new item of \$2,500,000 for roads on public lands and Indian reservations. (New York Times.)

CORPORATION  
OFFICIALS'  
SALARIES

Senator Wheeler of Montana, declared yesterday that large salaries of some corporation officials and others were a "direct threat to institutions of our country." Wheeler's comment came after E. F. Creekmore told the Senate Agriculture Committee he had been paid from \$25,000 to \$75,000 a year for managing the American Cotton Co-operative for the last seven years. Creekmore said he made \$97,000 profit one year as an independent cotton merchant prior to going with the co-operative. (Associated Press.)

RAILROADS MAY  
ASK FREIGHT RISE

Railroads of the country, waiting for Congress to act on President Roosevelt's call for legislation to ease the carriers' financial plight, were reported yesterday considering an application to the Interstate Commerce Commission for an emergency increase of 5 percent in freight rates. (Press.)

April 20, 1938

German Farm Self-Sufficiency      The Nation (April 16) contains "How Sound Is German Economy?--The Internal Picture" by A. Vidakovic. He says in part: "In spite of all Nazi efforts to make Germany self-sufficient (in agriculture), the present cultivated area of 28,631,000 hectares (figures do not include Austria) does not compare too favorably with the pre-war area of 29,730,000 hectares, even with allowances made for the land that has passed under foreign rule. Nor have crops increased. In 1937, although production of potatoes, sugar beets, roots, and vegetables was better, cereal production was below that of 1933. The rye crop was 6,760,000 as against 8,700,000 metric tons in 1933; wheat 4,490,000 as against 5,600,000; and barley and oats together 9,700,000 as against 10,500,000. This deficiency was not made up by increased imports. Food imports last year were valued at 1,757 million marks as against 5,579 million in 1928-29. Even when we express the 1937 amount in 1928-29 prices, it amounts to only 4,000 million marks. The reduction of food is therefore considerable, considering the increase in population in nine years...To improve food consumption without increasing German dependence on foreign markets, it would be necessary, according to the German Ministry of Agriculture, to extend cultivation by a further 1,200,000 hectares."

"Science Parade"      Developments revealing the important trends in science toward the World of Tomorrow, the theme of the New York World's Fair, will be shown as part of its preview program on April 30, Grover A. Whalen, president of the Fair Corporation, has announced. The "science parade" will also be presented on May 1. This showing of the miracles of modern science, which has been called a small "world's fair on wheels," points to the powerful influence laboratory research will have on the future. Under a large circus tent and in exhibit halls built of streamlined trucks, visitors will witness a new kind of show--a "science circus"--in which they will hear light, see sound and watch eggs fry on a stove without heat. The educational entertainment in popular science will include the demonstration of such phenomena as cold liquid light, frozen motion, the bending of a standard railroad rail by finger pressure and various unusual features of molecular friction. The purpose will be to emphasize the trend toward the future in which they may point the way to entirely new and important industrial developments. The "Parade of Progress Exposition", as the science show is called, has visited 113 cities in the United States, British Columbia and Mexico in the last two years and has been seen by almost 4,000,000 persons. This will be its first showing in New York City. (New York Times, April 17.)

1938 Tung Nut Crop      The 1938 tung nut crop in the United States will be in the neighborhood of 20,000,000 pounds, the Commerce Department estimates. This would amount to 4,000,000 pounds of oil, or somewhat less than 5 percent of the annual United States requirements. (Press.)

April 20, 1938

Congress,  
April 18

The Senate was not in session.

Considering bills on the consent calendar, the House passed the following: S. 2531, to authorize the transfer of certain military reservations to other agencies of the Government and to the people of Puerto Rico (authorizes transfer of two reservations to the Department) (p. 7214). This bill will now be sent to the President. H. R. 6243, to authorize an appropriation of \$50,000 to survey the Oglethorpe Trail with a view of constructing The Oglethorpe National Trail and Parkway (p. 7215).

The House Committee on Agriculture reported: S. J. Res. 256, to amend the joint resolution making funds available for the control of insect and plant pests, approved April 6, 1937 (without amendment) (H. Rept. 2148).

Items in Appendix: Testimony of former Sen. Robert L. Owen of Okla. in favor of H.R.7230, which provides for Government ownership of the Federal Reserve Banks (pp.7222-7230). Letter from the President to Mr. May, regarding Washington Airport (p.7243). Letter from commissioner of highways, Wis. to Mr. Sauthoff, opposing reduction in highway appropriations (pp. 7256-7257). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Farm Wages Increase      Despite the decline in prices of farm products, farmers are paying slightly higher wages to hired hands this spring than last, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. As a national figure, farm wages per month, with board, on April 1 averaged \$23.86, compared with \$23.38 on April 1 a year ago, and with \$20.41 as a 1910-14 April 1 average. As an index figure, the Bureau said that farm wages are 15 percent higher than during the 1910-14 base period, as contrasted with 12 percent on April 1 last year. The supply of farm labor was reported at 93 percent of normal, and the demand for labor about 82 percent of normal.

Economic Analyses      The American Coordinating Committee for International Studies has received a \$24,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to carry on the committee's work in economic analyses, President Henry M. Wriston, chairman, reports. "The funds will be used to carry out formal studies dealing with exchange restrictions in South America," President Wriston said, "and on international loans as instruments of national policy. Studies will also be made in connection with United States reciprocal trade agreements, indirect methods of protection and in connection with similar and related policies." (New York Times.)

Circular on Shoes      The National Bureau of Standards has issued a circular describing the serviceability of different types of shoes in response to a steady stream of consumer inquiries, says a Science Service report. Prepared under the supervision of R. C. Bowker, chief of the leather section of the bureau, the circular describes 40 different types of shoes under eight classifications.

Wallace on Wheat Insurance      Secretary Wallace, in a talk at Omaha, Nebraska, broadcast over the N.B.C. Farm and Home Hour, April 19, said in part: "...This meeting launches the plan for wheat farmers all over the United States. Anyone who knows the story of crop insurance must feel that this gathering turns a new page in the history of American agriculture. It is fitting that so many farmers and business people are gathered here. This occasion justifies widespread interest. Agriculture and the nation both have a big stake in the outcome of the crop insurance undertaking, and all of us must recognize that this is an experiment. We do not know how it will pan out, but we do know that the principle of insurance is applied in almost every field, and that if this plan gives farmers adequate protection against crop losses, millions of farmers will be benefited.

"...I wish to tell briefly and simply how the plan will work. The wheat grower is in a risky business. Every wheat farmer faces the prospect of crop failure in some future year. Every year that prospect comes true for some wheat farmers in some parts of this big country. No one knows this so well as the Great Plains wheat grower...Federal crop insurance now will make it possible for wheat growers to set up and draw upon a joint wheat reserve when they suffer crop losses, regardless of whether these losses are caused by drought, flood, wind, hail, insects, lightning or plant disease. This plan will be carried out through a Federal Crop Insurance Corporation set up in the Department of Agriculture. The manager of the corporation is Roy M. Green of Kansas. The program will be carried out locally among the farmers by the AAA county conservation committees. This crop insurance plan will guarantee that for his insured acreage the wheat grower will have a definite minimum amount of wheat to sell every year, regardless of crop failure. He can insure his crop for either one-half or three-quarters of the average yield of his farm, paying a smaller premium for one-half than for three-quarters. When unavoidable losses leave him less than the insured amount of wheat, he can draw upon the crop insurance reserves to make up the difference.

"...The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation will carry its reserve in actual wheat. How large the reserves will be depends on the number of growers who buy insurance, and on how soon another widespread crop failure occurs. If half of the nation's wheat acreage should be insured, the program would set aside in a few good crop years from 50 million bushels to 100 million bushels of wheat that can be used for only one purpose. That purpose is to provide insured farmers with wheat to sell when their crops fail...This program is not wheat price insurance. It is wheat yield insurance. It insures that the farmer will have the equivalent of a half or three-quarters crop to sell. The wheat grower himself pays in enough to cover average crop losses over a period of years. The government pays the administrative costs and the costs of storing the reserve. The cost of insurance to the farmers depends in part upon the crop loss experience for his farm and in part upon the crop loss experience for the county in which his farm is located. The Triple A records on yields were vital in supplying this information. The cost of insuring three-fourths of an average crop will be about one-half bushel an acre per year on the best wheat land; 1 to 1-1/2 bushels on good wheat land; and 2 to 2-3/4 bushels on high risk land. The crop insurance program fits into the usual way of marketing wheat. It will not need any new elaborate marketing system. The premiums can be paid by the farmers as they sell their wheat. The reserves will be stored in the elevators just as wheat is now stored. Wheat that is sold to prevent deterioration will simply be replaced with new wheat. When the farmer pays his premium he can take his wheat to the elevator as he always does, and have a separate warehouse receipt made out for the number of bushels needed to pay the premium. Or he can pay cash, and the Corporation will immediately buy enough wheat for his premium..."

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 15

Section 1

April 21, 1938

RELIEF BILL  
PROPOSALS

Immediate repeal of the undistributed profits tax and modification of the capital gains levy, in line with the Senate bill now deadlocked in conference, were the major recommendations for relief of the unemployment problem contained in a surprise report issued yesterday by the special Senate Committee on Unemployment and Relief. The "preliminary report", prepared by Senator Byrnes, the committee chairman, and rushed out for study alongside President Roosevelt's recovery program, contained numerous unexpected features. (New York Times.)

PROPOSE MILK  
AS PUBLIC  
UTILITY

An Albany, New York, report by the Associated Press says a proposal for a constitutional declaration of milk as a public utility was considered last night by "liberal" elements, who discussed introducing a measure in the Constitutional Convention to authorize placing the product under supervision of a body similar to the Public Service Commission. The proposal was expected to give the suggested governing body power to limit distributors' profits to 6 or 7 percent, as now prevails for all utilities, and to fix production costs. Observers believed such an amendment would involve much more extensive State regulation than State milk-price fixing, abandoned a year ago in favor of the Rogers-Allen law, which permits producers and distributors to bargain on the price paid to farmers.

AUSTRALIAN  
TRADE TALK

Australian government representatives visited the State Department yesterday for a preliminary discussion of possible trade agreement between the United States and Australia. They were J. F. Murphy, Australian secretary of commerce, and Edward Abbott, controller general of customs. Australia recently placed herself in line for negotiations with the United States by removing discriminatory treatment of American products which had caused her to be placed on the United States' economic blacklist along with Germany. (Associated Press.)

N.Y. FRUIT  
SEASON

Encouraged by warm weather, the vanguard of billions of blossoms in the New York State fruit belt appeared yesterday two weeks ahead of schedule. Farmers from the Hudson River to the Niagara frontier kept anxious eyes on their thermometers, because freezing temperatures during "blossom time" would cause widespread damage, Farm Bureau agents reported. (Associated Press.)

April 21, 1938

**Scientific Research** Ice and Cold Storage (London, April) says: "One of the surest guarantees of the progress of applied refrigeration is the extensive and rapidly growing worldwide scheme of scientific research, the results of which are now a common record in our own pages. One recalls the time when the Bureau of Chemistry of the United States Government was the fountain-head of this foundational work. Then, in the Great War, the Food Investigation Board was established in London at the suggestion of the British Association of Refrigeration, and now from both hemispheres comes the flow of new knowledge relentlessly fixing narrower confines for the operation of decay and waste. In the last annual report of the Australian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research we find the record of much new research work, and notably that relating to beef handling, transport and storage. Studies, not yet completed, are proceeding in connection with the factors governing the nature and extent of the microbial contamination of beef on slaughter floors... The Australian scientists, it appears, have already defined the conditions for the effectual heat sterilization of beef-wrapping materials."

**Lime Use Increases** Lime marches on. Records just brought up to date by Ohio State University's agronomists show that every year since 1931, farmers in the Buckeye state have used more agricultural lime than the year previous. The 353,409 tons they applied in 1937, was more than three times the 102,579 tons they used in 1932. Of the liming materials applied in Ohio in 1937, a total of 294,453 tons was limestone--38,644 tons pulverized, 72,944 tons agricultural ground, and 182,815 tons limestone meal. The remainder of the liming materials used include 17,617 tons of hydrated lime and 41,339 tons of agricultural slag, screenings, basic slag, sugar beet lime and marl. (Farm Journal, May.)

**Machine for Reading Microfilm** The compact, portable reading machine for reading books and documents recorded on microfilm developed under the auspices of Science Service, the non-profit institution for the popularization of science, was patented recently. Covering several basic features of the machine, Patent No. 2,113,578 was granted to Lt. Rupert H. Draeger, United States Navy surgeon. The machine is essentially a projector which enlarges and throws on a translucent screen an image of the film. Slightly larger than an office typewriter and costing less, it enables rapid reading of the rolls of film. Pages are turned by a hand crank on existing models, although Lt. Draeger previously patented an automatic page selector. Lt. Draeger also received Patent 2,113,580 on an adjustable film gate for the machine. (Science Service.)

**Plant Articles** The April 9 and 16 issues of Florists Exchange contain two articles on "Plant Research Results for 1937" by Kenneth Post, Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, Cornell University.

April 21, 1938

Senate,  
April 1<sup>o</sup>

The Senate passed without amendment H.J.Res.627, making an additional appropriation for the Civilian Conservation Corps (pp.7295-7299). This joint resolution will now be sent to the President.

Both Houses received a message from the President recommending legislation for authorizing an appropriation of \$15,000 to be used for United States participation in the Third Pan American Highway Conference, Santiago, Chile, in September, 1938; ref. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and House Committee on Foreign Affairs (pp.7261-7290).

Mr. Connally submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) providing that for the purposes of the cotton price-adjustment payment provisions of the Third Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1937 (Public No. 354, 75th Cong.)"\*\* cotton not sold prior to September 10, 1937, shall be held and considered to have been sold on a date when the average price of seven-eighths-inch middling cotton on the 10 designated spot markets was less than 9 cents per pound on date of sale \* \* \*." (p. 7294).

Mr. Thomas of Utah spoke briefly in favor of Federal aid in education and inserted in the Record a comparison between S.419, the Harrison bill, and a substitute provision based on the report of the President's Advisory Committee on Education (pp.7294-7295).

The Senate received the nomination of Harry S. Muir to be Regional Director of the Farm Security Administration (p.7327).

House,  
April 19

The House passed the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) (pp. 7261-7273). The following amendments, recommended by the President (H.Doc.591), were agreed to without opposition: Increasing "Federal-aid highway system" from \$63,000,000 to \$125,000,000 (pp. 7263-7266 and 7268). Increasing "Federal-aid secondary or feeder roads" from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 (pp. 7268-7269). Increasing "Elimination of grade crossings" from \$20,000,000 to \$40,000,000 (p. 7269). Inserting an item of \$2,500,000 for "Public-land highways" (pp. 7269-7270);\* The following points of order were overruled: By Mr. Cartwright: Against the proviso authorizing the Bureau of Public Roads to use \$45,000 for purchase of automobiles (pp. 7261-7263). By Mr. Tabor: Against the item for "Public-land highways" (pp. 7269-7270). By Mr. Tabor: Against \$7,000,000 of the item for "Forest roads and trails" (p. 7270).

Mr. Maverick spoke in favor of increasing the "Aerology" item under the Weather Bureau (pp.7266-7268). Mr. Cannon closed debate on the bill with a plea for economy (pp. 7270-7271). Immediately preceding the vote on the bill Mr. Cannon demanded a separate vote on several amendments, and the results of these votes were as follows: The Bang's disease amendment was agreed to by a vote of 167 to 51 (p. 7272). The

\*Increasing "Forest roads and trails" from \$7,000,000 to \$14,000,000 (p.7270).

April 21, 1938

House, April 19 (continued).

cattle-tick amendment was rejected by a vote of 56 to 86 (p. 7272). The wildlife restoration amendment was agreed to by a vote of 163 to 41 (p. 7272). The farm tenancy amendment was rejected by a vote of 149 to 155 (pp. 7272-7273).

The House received a petition from the Chicago Livestock Exchange requesting that the Civilian Conservation Corps be prohibited from buying imported meats (p. 7259).

Item in Appendix: Statements of Mr. Steiner, "who is the originator of the cross-country superhighway plan" (pp. 7344-7345). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Aerial Maps for Surveys A method of ascertaining acreages of crops and other vegetation, by using aerial maps, was employed by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering in surveying the basin of the Rio Grande in Colorado, New Mexico, and western Texas for the National Resources Committee. A total area of more than 2,000,000 acres was mapped in 18 classifications in a single season, with only a small force and limited funds. The system was devised by F. C. Scobey of the Irrigation Division, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. Practically all the basin was mapped on aerial photostatic prints having a scale of two inches to the mile in the more open country and four inches in the more congested areas in New Mexico. On these prints the fields were readily identified and numbered or colored according to the classification scheme. (Scientific American, May.)

N.J. Poultry Campaign Backed by a state certificate of quality, the New Jersey State Poultry Association has under way an experimental advertising campaign to sell top-grade homegrown eggs to New Jersey housekeepers. State inspectors will supervise the candling of all eggs offered for this trade, and only those classed as strictly fresh may go to market in the blue-and-buff State of New Jersey carton. Dealers authorized to handle this choice product may show the official emblem, and they will be furnished with various display material to advertise the event. (Country Gentleman, May.)

Venezuelan Import Quotas A Venezuelan executive decree, published in the Official Gazette on April 12, created an import quota system in retaliation against those foreign countries restricting the importation of Venezuelan products and attempting to balance exports and imports, according to a cablegram received by the Department of Commerce. The Venezuelan Ministry of the Treasury will determine the total quotas, establishing the volume of imports and specifying the articles and groups of merchandise or imports to be subject to quota from certain countries, which have not yet been established. (Press.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 16

Section 1

April 22, 1938

**FOOD AND DRUG LEGISLATION** A minority on the House Interstate Commerce Committee filed a report yesterday with the House criticizing the Copeland-Lea pure food and drug bill which was favorably reported last week by a majority of the committee. The report contained a letter from Secretary Wallace which said that under one section of the bill permission was granted to one whose goods had been barred to file an appeal in the District Courts and to "supplement the evidence recorded in the Secretary's hearing on which the order was based." "This constitutes an invitation to those who would obstruct the enforcement of a regulation to withhold or cancel evidence merely for the purpose of upsetting the order and thus postponing indefinitely the enforcement of the regulation," Mr. Wallace wrote. "It is the Department's considered judgment that it would be better to continue the old law in effect than to enact S.5 with this provision," he said. "If there is to be exploration into new fields of administration law," he said, "may I urge that it not be in the field of vitally important public health legislation." (Press.)

**WORLD TRADE A NECESSITY** W. F. Gephart, vice president of the First National Bank of St. Louis, told the convention of the Bankers Association for Foreign Trade yesterday that "international trade is a basic human necessity" and "self-sufficiency for any nation is an absurdity." Mr. Gephart, president of the association, praised the reciprocal trade treaties as the "most intelligent commercial trade policy" ever undertaken by the United States, but added: "We have yet far to go in the removal in our own case of artificial tariff barriers to trading with other nations, so that markets abroad may be obtained, business recovery hastened and unemployment decreased." (Associated Press.) Stressing the importance of foreign commerce to the prosperity of New York City, Mayor La Guardia yesterday urged all citizens to participate in the activities of Foreign Trade Week, May 22 to 28. The mayor's proclamation pointed out that more than 1,000 communities of the country will observe Foreign Trade Week this year. The observance, he added, was particularly timely "in the midst of a world-wide need for the continuance of peaceful commercial contacts between the United States and all other countries." (New York Times.)

**ALASKAN ROAD PLAN DISCUSSED** Administration and British Columbia officials shaped plans at a conference yesterday for an early start on a \$20,000,000 highway from the American Northwest to Alaska. Conferees, who included Secretary Ickes and Prime Minister T. B. Pattullo, of British Columbia, indicated Congress might be asked at this session to approve a \$15,000,000 loan to finance the western Canadian Province's share of the 2,200-mile road. (Associated Press.)

April 22, 1938

Senate,  
April 20

The Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 10238) was received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Appropriations (p. 7349). Mr. Murray submitted amendments, increasing the appropriations for research under the Bankhead-Jones Act of June 29, 1935, by \$1,000,000 (p. 7349).

House,  
April 20

The House Committee on Agriculture reported with amendment S. 1998, to amend "An act to provide for the collection and publication of statistics of peanuts by the Department of Agriculture," approved June 24, 1936 (H. Rept. 2165) (p. 7375).

The House Committee on Military Affairs reported with amendment H. R. 10193, to authorize detail of any employee of the United States to temporary duty with the government of any American Republic or the Philippines (H. Rept. 2167) (P. 7375).

The House Committee on Civil Service will hold hearings on civil-service retirement April 26 (p. 7375). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

LaForge Farms  
Experiment

One hundred men, a few months removed from their sharecropper status, urged 100 teams of newly acquired mules to greater speed recently as they plowed level acres of LaForge farms, the Farm Security Administration's latest experiment in rural rehabilitation, says an Associated Press report from New Madrid, Missouri. Each man has been set up as a diversified farmer, with a farm of from 55 to 70 acres, leased to him by FSA, a team of mules, new farming equipment, a milk cow, a hog and pigs, and 50 chickens, purchased with funds loaned by FSA. Each of the 60 white and 40 Negro families, numbering about 600 persons, has a large garden plot. Each of the farms will have new buildings, prefabricated and hauled knocked-down by truck to locations. Cost of the houses is figured at slightly under \$1,000 and the barns at approximately \$500 each. The houses have three bedrooms, combination living and dining room and kitchen. In the middle of the 6,700-acre tract, purchased at an average cost of \$41 an acre, is a cotton gin valued at \$25,000. The farmers organized the LaForge Co-operative Association to operate the gin. The association also set up a co-operative store. The cotton crop is to be marketed co-operatively. Carl Puckett, president of the Co-operative Association, said purchase of implements through the store saved the farmers \$12,000. The farmers are committed to repay their loans to FSA by turning over one-fourth of the cash from their cotton crops in addition to \$50 rental this year. After the farmers have had opportunity to establish themselves, it is probable that a plan will be worked out whereby they can become land-owners. The farmers have agreed to plant only certified cotton seed from which they expect to produce staple of premium grade.

Wallace on  
Breeding  
Systems

Secretary Wallace, in the Sprague Memorial Lecture at Michigan State College, discusses corn breeding methods and their possible effect on livestock breeding methods.

In the case of swine breeding, he says in part: "It is the function of certain pure-bred breeders to maintain in homozygous form the foundation stock to furnish boars to the practical feed lot farmer. It becomes the function of another set of pure-bred breeders to furnish in homozygous form line-bred strains of sows which have been proved by previous experiments to combine well with the homozygous strains of boars. This all sounds complicated and expensive. And undoubtedly it is at the present time. And yet I am convinced that if we made the necessary modifications indicated by experience, some such system as this will eventually prove to be just as significant with hogs as the hybrid corn system is with corn. The farmers in order to get the best results would find it necessary continually to come back to the purebred breeders for their foundation stock.

"The purebred breeders under this system would have a function many times as important to the practical farmer as is the case at the present time. I am sure that it will only be a few years until a large number of the purebred breeders will gradually shift their plans to help in an approach of this type. I am convinced the average purebred breeder has sufficient of the practical farmer in him so that he wants to co-operate to the utmost to enable the farmer to turn the minimum of grain into the maximum of satisfying meat for the ultimate consumer. Both the breeder and the farmer are interested not in show-ring ribbons but in those methods that will enable the farmer best to serve the consumer. Working in this direction, I am convinced both the breeder and the farmer want the maximum of cooperation from the experiment stations, the Department of Agriculture and the packers."

U.S.D.A. Rice  
Station Plan

A program of diversification, specialized production and "live-at-home" was advanced by farm leaders to about 500 farmers and farm women attending the annual spring visitors' day at the Stuttgart, Arkansas, rice experiment station (B.P.I.). Necessity for a new program in the rice industry has been caused by a decreased export market, a large over-production last year and the exacting demands of the American consumer, it was said. "The rice grower faces the necessity of growing varieties most suitable for the market," said J. Mitchell Jenkins, superintendent of the Crowley (La.) rice experiment station. Desired varieties include Fortuna, Rexora, Nira and Honduras, he said. The problem of the experiment stations, Mr. Jenkins said, is to develop a variety of rice that will meet demand, and will mill properly. R. E. Short of Brinkley, president of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation, said the rice farmer must adjust himself to changing conditions. He predicted a carryover of from 2,000,000,000 to 3,000,000,000 pounds of rice in the South on August 1. "Our greatest problem, and it affects the entire agriculture of the United States, is the loss of our export markets," he said. (Arkansas Gazette, April 13.)

April 22, 1938

Missouri  
Erosion  
Control

The Missouri Ruralist (April 16) says editorially: "If Governor Stark's recently appointed Erosion Control Committee will function as efficiently as George Wilkerson's bug fighters are doing, much good may come out of the idea. M. F. Miller, head of the soils department of the Missouri College of Agriculture and incoming dean, is a committee chairman. Miller's voice has been a voice crying in the wilderness urging erosion control for many years. It is Miller who has chosen to discuss soil erosion in the 'Book of Rural Life.'...It would be a fine thing if erosion control committees could be set up in every Missouri county. Interest in terracing and contour farming demonstrations can be aroused, but the most effective way to control erosion is to stop plowing land that erodes easily. Many a poor farmer, who has intelligence enough to know that he should not plant crops requiring cultivation on thin hill land, must do so to produce grain crops for feed and to sell that he might live..."

Agricultural Improvement in the T.V.A.

"The soil conservation and agricultural improvement program of the Tennessee Valley Authority is integrated with its other objectives in a comprehensive plan designed to bring a better way of living to the people of the valley," says Russell B. Porter in a Knoxville report to the New York Times. "In cooperation with other Federal and State agencies and with the farm population, the TVA is trying to stop soil erosion, improve farming methods, raise the farmers' standard of living, increase their purchasing power and extend the benefits of cheap and abundant electricity into rural areas...More specifically the TVA act gave it a mandate to produce new, cheap and improved forms of fertilizers...TVA experts explain their decision to produce phosphate plant foods instead of nitrates as due to surveys showing, among other things, that the soils of the valley are in bad need of phosphorous...Whereas the bulk of the commercial phosphate fertilizer sold today contains only 16 to 20 percent of plant foods, according to officials, the TVA has developed two highly concentrated products--a triple superphosphate, containing 43 to 48 percent of plant foods, which it has been distributing to farmers since 1935, and an even higher strength calcium metaphosphate, commonly called metaphos, containing 65 percent of plant foods, which is being shipped out for the first time during the present spring planting season. Although the new fertilizers are still in an experimental stage, TVA experts predict that eventually the fertilizers can be bought by all at prices substantially less per plant food content than existing commercial fertilizers...The TVA is financing a widespread demonstration program based on use of its new fertilizers. There are now more than 24,000 demonstration farms comprising more than 3,000,000 acres and close to 1,000,000 acres have been treated..."

Nicaraguan  
Highways

A Managua dispatch to the New York Times says the Nicaraguan Congress has approved a contract made between the government and the American Road Building Company and its American engineer associates to construct highways throughout the republic. The contract was made on a cost-plus basis and provides that the contractor will train Nicaraguan engineers to construct all-year roads.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 17

Section 1

April 25, 1938

SCIENCE  
MEETINGS

Washington becomes the capital of the world of science this week with annual meetings of the scientific societies. The scientific session of the National Academy starts this morning. The American Meteorological Society will hold its session Wednesday. The same day, groups of the American Geophysical Union will start their meetings. The Institute of Radio Engineers will start in sessions with a general assembly Thursday evening. The American Physical Society will open its spring meetings on Thursday. (Washington Star.)

FOREIGN TRADE  
CONVENTION

The Bankers Association for Foreign Trade, closing a two-day convention at French Lick, Indiana, Friday, adopted resolutions calling for revision of combined rail and water freight rates and endorsing reciprocal trade agreements. Henry F. Grady, vice chairman of the Tariff Commission, told the convention that "to abandon the policy of trade liberalization and move in the opposite direction toward foreign trade restriction, as some would have us do," would lead to "far-reaching production controls and regimentation." (Associated Press.)

COTTON  
INCOME

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimated Saturday that despite production of the largest cotton crop on record, the growers' income in the 1937 calendar year amounted to only \$363,970,000 or \$41,00,000 less than in the previous year. Of the 1937 income, cotton fiber paid \$734,194,000 to the growers and cotton seed, \$129,776,000, according to the bureau's summary. (Associated Press.)

WILDLIFE  
RESTORATION

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Friday was termed "the greatest thing for wildlife that has happened yet in America" by Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the Biological Survey, says a Chicago report by the Associated Press. "The bill," he told the sixteenth annual convention of the Izaak Walton League of America, "gives a chance to build a better wildlife program in this country than we ever had before." Modeled on the federal highway act, the speaker said, the bill was designed to create areas and put them in condition to produce and maintain wildlife. Funds for these projects are earmarked by the government from its tax revenues on sales of sporting arms and ammunition.

Heat and Egg Laying Tests by Dr. E. C. Warren, of Kansas State College's poultry department, show that where birds do not encounter maximum temperatures higher than 70 degrees, the maximum egg size is reached in July and August. Those birds subjected to high summer temperatures never reach the potential maximum egg size during the pullet year, except when they keep on laying very late in fall when temperatures drop. These Kansas results point to the need of protecting hens as far as possible from high summer temperatures. Not only do hens lay smaller eggs during heat waves, but the number of eggs goes down, too. Doesn't this emphasize the need for insulation of houses for summer layers? (Farm Journal, May.)

Soil Poisoning in Orchards The problem of soil poisoning has become an acute one in many apple orchards where the accumulation of the spray materials of 20 years or more is making land toxic to many kinds of plant life. The State College of Washington has been devoting research effort toward the discovery of some treatment that will overcome this ill effect of arsenic spray residues in the soil. A report has been issued by Dr. S. C. Vandecaveye of the soils department and Dr. E. L. Overholser of the horticultural department. "A number of chemical compounds and organic materials tried on these soils by the agricultural experiment station, State College of Washington, have given beneficial effects," the report states. "So far, however, none has proven capable of completely counteracting the toxic condition developed in the soil where this has been sufficiently pronounced to inhibit or seriously damage the growth of the common field and vegetable crops." Several unknown factors yet remain in connection with the problem of soil toxicity. "Our investigation of this problem," concludes the report, "is being continued with the hope that an effective as well as practical solution will be found for all the affected soils." (Washington Farmer, April 14.)

Citrus Fruit Movement The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad was able to reclaim a large part of the movement of citrus fruits from competing forms of transportation during 1937 and this aided materially in the addition of \$3,252,370 to freight revenues over the preceding year. Of the large citrus fruit crop, rails moved 53.5% of the total compared with 47.2% in 1936. This excludes shipments to local canning plants which are handled exclusively by trucks and which nearly doubled during the year. Further improvement in the rails' competitive position should follow ICC authority for shipments at low rates daily rather than only four days a week and inclusion in these rates of a modified form of refrigeration to partially meet a similar service by boat lines. Marketing of the crop will again be aided by promotional activities of the Florida Citrus Commission, which was made a permanent body in June, 1937, when it was to have expired. (Wall Street Journal, April 21.)

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Senate, April 21 Mr. Davis submitted an amendment to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R.10238) to increase the appropriation for "Forest Management" from \$638,403 to \$678,403 (P. 7384).

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported the following: without amendment, S. J. Res. 284, to authorize an appropriation for participation by the United States in the Third Pan American Highway Conference (S. Rept. 1631) (P. 7384); and, with amendments, S. 3804, authorizing temporary detail of United States employees to governments of American republics and the Philippines (S. Rept. 1633) (p. 7584).

The Senate recessed until April 25.

House, April 21 The House passed the War Department Civil Functions Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H. R. 10291) (pp.7429-7462). This bill contains an item of \$3,000,000 to be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for preliminary surveys on the water-sheds of flood-control projects (pp. 7429-7462).

The House Committee on Labor reported with amendment S. 2475, the wages and hours bill (H. Rept. 2182) (p. 7467).

Mr. Chapman obtained unanimous consent to file a minority report on S. 5, the food and drugs bill (p. 7415). This bill was reported in the House April 14.

The House adjourned until April 25.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

March Rural Sales Up The index of daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas increased in March by 5.9 percent over February, allowance being made for seasonal factors, the Department of Commerce has announced. Without seasonal adjustment the gain was 8 percent. Sales decreased about 16 percent from March, 1937, the declines in the East and Far West being slightly less than in other parts of the country.

Forest Aerial Photography Development of technique in the use of aerial photographs for forest survey work is reported by the Canadian Forest Service, says an Ottawa press report. By the use of a double-vision projector, outlines of the forest types and other features can be transferred directly from the photograph to a map of any desired scale. It has been found possible to obtain from the air an area classification of forest types, and methods of determining the heights of trees have been developed by measuring their images or shadows in the photographs, which with the density of the forest provides the basis for surprisingly accurate estimates of the volume of standing timber.

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Factory Meals for Livestock J. A. Miles, in *The Field* (London, April 2) is author of "Producing a Protein Meal". He describes a factory which produces high protein, tonic grass for the small farmer with grass to spare but without capital for individual grass drying equipment. "A group of farmers formed a private company to finance the venture," he says. "Fields of grass are rented for the whole of the season from individual landowners and mowing is carried on by the factory staff, who also collect the grass and transport it by lorry to the factory itself. An agreed price per ton of raw grass is allowed for all mown and carried from any field; this price fluctuating according to the actual amount of moisture present in the grass when it is weighed as it enters the premises. A basic price of 10 shillings per ton is allowed for grass showing a moisture content of 80 percent, with a reduction of threepence per ton for every 1 percent moisture above this figure... Within six weeks of the experimental stage, the factory was working at full pressure, day and night shifts being necessary to handle the vast quantity of raw material being brought in from the fields. Tractors and mowing machines were working by floodlight, and the total output of meal exceeded 15cwt. per hour. A storage tank of 2,000 gallons capacity has been built to deal with the evaporated residue from the steeping tank, for it is assumed that some useful purpose will be found for this waste material, and in conjunction with this side-line, a fully equipped condensing plant is working. Already arrangements are in hand for dealing with the experimental drying of root crops, in order to save the inevitable waste which takes place under the present system of storing roots for winter use. Sugar-beet tops offer another outlet for the activities of the factory, for much valuable foodstuff is lost in this direction..."

S.C.S. Exhibit in Patio Small-scale rainstorms falling on tiny chunks of farm-land demonstrate basic principles of soil and water conservation in the administration building of the department the first three days of this week. An exhibit designed by the Soil Conservation Service and constructed with the help of WPA labor shows how rainwater behaves on eroded land as contrasted with near-virgin soil. Bearing some resemblance to a large-scale, more elaborate device now being used to check actual rainfall behavior on a Soil Conservation Service research project near Coshocton, Ohio, the exhibit has attracted wide-spread attention at schools, farmers' gatherings and scientific meetings in several states. It is estimated that at least 25,000 persons have seen it.

Agricultural Imports of agricultural implements by Canada rose from Implements \$9,374,000 in 1936 to \$17,234,000 in 1937, indicating an increase in the country's farm purchasing power, according to the Commerce Department. Imports from the United States, accounting for 96 percent of the total imports, rose from \$8,800,000 in 1936 to \$16,276,000 in 1937. Imports of tractors and parts from the United States were \$13,000,000 in 1937 compared with \$6,500,000 in 1936.

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 18

Section 1

April 26, 1938

PACKERS AND  
STOCKYARDS  
DECISION

In a decision handed down yesterday, the Supreme Court, splitting six to one, with Justices Cardozo and Reed out of the case, rejected as invalid maximum rates proposed by Secretary Wallace, under the Packers and Stockyards Act, for livestock sales commissions at the Kansas City Stock Yards. The court said that Secretary Wallace had accepted as his own the findings of the "active prosecutors for the government," and had not given the packers the right to a full and fair hearing. (New York Times.)

FREIGHT RATES  
REDUCED

Class freight rates between western trunk-line territory and southern territory were reduced on the average between 7 and 10 percent by a decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission handed down yesterday. Class rates, as distinguished from commodity rates, apply to articles which move in quantities too small to warrant a separate rate of their own, whereas commodity rates apply to bulk shipments. The decision affects shipments from North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, Iowa, Mississippi and Northwestern Illinois into the region east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio and south of a point near Kenova, West Virginia, and a line running eastward to the Atlantic Ocean. (Press.)

BRITISH-IRISH  
TRADE PACT

"The British and Irish Governments ended their disastrous six-year tariff war yesterday with the help of a 10,000,000 pound lump sum payment by Ireland and the abandonment by Britain of the last vestige of her control over the soil of the twenty-six counties," says Ferdinand Kuhn, Jr., in a London cable to the New York Times. "The far-reaching agreement opens the markets of each country to the other and promises to bring more friendly relations than at any time since the 700-year feud of Englishman and Irishman began...."

N.Y. MEAT  
GRADING

Compulsory grading of meats is neither excessively costly nor unfeasible, B. F. McCarthy, senior market specialist for the meat-grading service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, told a group of consumers yesterday in New York City. The consumers witnessed the actual slaughtering of cattle, having been invited by Maurice P. Davidson, counsel for the joint committee of the meat industry in New York, which was formed recently to combat the proposed ordinance drawn up by William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., Markets Commissioner, requiring grading on all meats sold in the city. (New York Times.)

April 26, 1938

South Turns The Progressive Farmer (May) says in an editorial:  
to Livestock "As the writer noted on a recent trip through the South,  
interest in livestock production is increasing everywhere.  
Armour is preparing to spend \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 for a new plant at  
Houston, Tex. A \$750,000 plant is being constructed by Swift at Lake  
Charles, La. Plants have already been established in Ocala, Fla.,  
Memphis, Tenn., and Tifton and Albany, Ga....How often we have heard it  
said, 'If you want to make a stockman, begin early!' Who knows what it  
can mean to the agricultural progress of the South if year after year  
(as in 1936) through 4-H club work alone 85,000 boys and girls are be-  
coming better acquainted with poultry, 28,000 have a calf or a cow or a  
steer of their own (maybe colts will be included after this year), and  
56,000 are learning how to make profits from hogs."

Contour "A contour furrowing plow which lifts up the sod and  
Furrow topsoil, makes a ridge beneath, and then drops undamaged  
Plow sod back in place, has been designed by Xzin McNeal of  
the agricultural engineering department, University of  
Missouri," reports Cecil E. Barger in Country Gentleman (May). "Contour  
furrowing of pasture land, McNeal found in a survey of forty farms, saved  
about 24 percent of the total rainfall which would otherwise run off,  
and the carrying capacity of the pastures was increased in proportion.  
However, building the furrows with an ordinary plow destroyed an esti-  
mated 22.3 percent of the sod, turned up some subsoil, and involved con-  
siderable time and expense. McNeal's furrower exposes little subsoil  
and tears up a minimum of sod. The machine is reversible and can be  
pulled by any two-plow tractor. It does good work even on poor sod,  
building a ridge six inches high with a furrow nine inches deep..."

Micro-Analysis Scientific American (May) contains "Chemistry's  
in Chemistry Newest Sleuth" by A. L. White. He says in the concluding  
paragraphs: "Micro-analysis has found a large variety of  
uses. It is used for diagnosing corrosion causes; for the identification  
of surface contaminants such as tarnish films; for composition studies  
on thin layers or small areas to determine the constituents; for the  
analysis of dust; for determining the causes of transformation and de-  
terioration in materials; and for the identification of foreign sub-  
stances in any material. While it works with smaller quantities than  
are used in regular analytical laboratory work, and many of the processes  
are the same, it must not be considered a mere reduction in scale of  
methods and standard laboratory practice; it supplements it by providing  
a means of analyzing specimens which cannot be handled by standard pro-  
cedure. As the application of micro-analysis to engineering problems  
increases, we can look for greatly improved products and materials in  
the future."

April 26, 1938

Farm Fire Insurance      The 1,941 farmers' mutual fire insurance companies now operating in the United States have in force enough fire insurance to cover, to three-fourths of its value, considerably more than half of all the farm property in the United States which is subject to insurance against fire. This was revealed by V. N. Valgren, principal agricultural economist of the Farm Credit Administration, in reporting on a study recently completed. This insurance totals more than 11 billion dollars and is held by approximately 3,260,000 members. Farmers have obtained protection through these companies at a marked saving in cost, the economist said. The average cost for losses and expenses of operation for the entire group of companies during 1935, the latest year for which complete figures are available, was 23.2 cents per \$100 of insurance. This was the lowest average cost for any year summarized. From 1914 to 1929 the cost ranged from about 24 cents to 28 cents. During the next 3 years it exceeded 30 cents, reaching a high point of 32 cents in 1932. (News for Farmer Cooperatives, April.)

Corn Borer      The United States this year will have more European corn borers, more widely distributed, than ever before, unless June is dry enough to prevent the general hatching of eggs and establishment of young destructive borers. Last summer's plentiful moisture and last winter's mildness more than counterbalanced the setback the corn borer received from the dry summers and cold winters of 1934, 1935, and 1936. A few more seasons as favorable to the corn borer as 1937 would establish it as a major pest over much of the corn belt, according to G. M. Packard of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. With favorable weather in June corn borers will be troublesome in many parts of the Northeast, from eastern Wisconsin across to Maine. No practical way to eradicate the corn borer is known, Mr. Packard says. So far the best control is a thorough clean-up of the farm. This method is based upon the corn borer's peculiar seasonal development, which makes other control measures difficult.

Ocean Weather Service      An ocean-wide cooperative weather-reporting service spanning the North Atlantic will be set up to provide data for commercial airline operation between North America and Europe, says a Science Service report. More than \$1,000,000 will be spent by governments and airlines to provide meteorological information following the Transatlantic Air Conference at Dublin recently. The weather service, into which will be integrated the services of the Canadian, British, Irish and Newfoundland governments and of Pan-American Airways, will represent the greatest ocean-wide flying weather reporting system in use. Weather data used on survey flights last year were provided from ship reports to the U. S. Weather Bureau and from standard European services. In addition information was received from steamers at sea equipped with special instruments installed by Pan American, from cooperating European over-ocean airlines and from Pan American's own stations on the Atlantic coast and in the north.

Water Culture for Plants "W. C. Walker, assistant in olericulture at the University of Illinois, advises against investing any considerable sum of money in growing plants in water cultures," says F. J. Keilholz, extension editor of the university, in Country Gentleman (May). "Those wishing to work with the idea as a hobby can do so without great expense with home equipment and self-mixed chemicals procured at the drugstore. As far as large-scale production is concerned, however, the plan is still a problem for the laboratory and skilled experimenters. A. Washburn & Sons, Bloomington, Illinois, greenhouse operators, and several others have tried the plan experimentally for the first time in that state during the past year, but Walker cites records to show that water cultures were used as early as 1699. The greatest activity was around 1850... Among the advantages claimed for growing vegetables in water cultures are better insect and disease control, saving of soil labor and of space, and adjustment of plant foods to behaviors and needs. Disadvantages include expense of equipment, the need of chemical and botanical education, new diseases, chemical troubles and uncertainty of results."

Chemical Exports and Imports The Nation's export trade in chemicals during 1937 reached the highest point in seven years, according to a report of a survey made public by the American Chemical Society. Chemical imports of the United States in 1937 were the highest since 1930. "Higher prices, the increased pace of the world rearmament, lower tariff barriers through reciprocal trade treaties, greater business activity during the first seven months of 1937 and the 1936 drought were major factors contributing to the increase of both the Nation's chemical foreign trade and its general foreign trade," says the report, prepared by Otto Wilson, Washington, D.C., statistician. The increase in the Nation's foreign trade was an important factor in recording a rise of \$1,500,000,000 over 1936 in total foreign trade carried on by the United States. "Chemical foreign trade followed that of the general trade in taking a big stride forward, although imports showed a much greater proportional gain than exports. This is a reversal of the trend for several years past. The actual gain in total value was about the same for both branches of the trade, chemical imports registering an increase of \$22,596,000 and exports \$22,545,000. The combined value of imports and exports was greater in 1937 than for any previous year since 1929." (Press.)

Intelligence Service A new intelligence service for scholars engaged in research is being inaugurated in Providence, R. I., by Dr. Henry B. Van Hoesen, librarian of Brown University, who is secretary of the Bibliographical Society of America. When the marshalling of references begins in connection with a research, the Bibliographical Society will carry a notice to its members telling by whom and where the bibliography is being prepared. Others working in the same field will be saved the trouble of duplicating the same compilation. (Science Service.)

# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 19

Section 1

April 27, 1938

**SCIENCE** "A chemical model which imitates in many important respects the behavior of the mysterious invisible fluid wall surrounding all living cells and gives the appearance of "perpetual motion" that can go on for months", was described yesterday before the National Academy of Sciences," reports William L. Laurence in the New York Times. "The new artificial cell-wall, which behaves contrary to known natural law, and indicates that a new phenomenon of nature has been brought to light, was reported by Dr. W. J. V. Osterhout and Dr. J.W. Murray of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York....."

**RETIREMENT BILL HEARING** Changes in the civil service retirement act were proposed to the Senate yesterday by Senator Neely, West Virginia, upon behalf of the Civil Service Committee as the opened hearings. Neely said that the Civil Service Commission favors all changes save the one which proposes to reduce the ages for optional retirement after 30 years' service to 64, 60 and 58 years. The present retirement ages are 68, 63 and 60. The bill proposes the following changes: three one-year extensions of appointments beyond the retirement age; a choice of two joint-survivorship annuity plans; extends from 90 days to 12 months the period which an employee may be retained on the retirement rool after recovery from disability while he is trying to get reinstated in the service; permits employees to deposit additional amounts of not to exceed 10 percent of their salaries with the Government for additional annuities; changes the existing law for returning salary deductions to an employee when he leaves the service. The House Civil Service Committee today will continue hearings on the House bills. (Washington Post.)

**CHEMISTRY AWARD** Dr. Paul D. Bartlett, 30-year-old assistant professor at Harvard University, will receive this year's \$1,000 prize in pure chemistry awarded by the American Chemical Society. The prize will be presented at the minety-sixth meeting of the society in Milwaukee next September. The award is for "notable progress in the important borderline field between organic and physical chemistry." (Press.)

**BRAZILIAN COTTON CROP** Burdened with a bumper crop of 2,000,000 bales of cotton, Brazil is being subjected to terrific pressure by Germany to increase the volume of aski mark trade with that country, Nicholas Moreno of the export department of Fairbanks, Morse & Co., told members of the Export Managers Club of New York, Inc., yesterday (New York Times.)

More Radio Programs for Farmers "Here's good news for farm radio owners," says Progressive Farmer (May). "The farmer and the farm family will get more radio programs adapted entirely to their interests in the near future. That is the belief of Ernest B. Loveman of a radio and television corporation. He classes the farmer as the greatest single buying factor in the United States today, due to the fact that farm income and farm population are at their highest in years. 'For once,' says Mr. Loveman, 'the farmer seems to be on top of the economic heap and is most likely to stay there. Advertisers are aware of this and will be pointing their messages to the farmer even more than before. In addition to farm journals and newspapers, this will include broadcasting...As radio sponsors come to realize that the farm market is assuming ever-increasing importance,' he concludes, 'there is bound to be a tremendous upturn in the number of first-grade programs exclusively fashioned for the farmer.'..."

Meat Course in Montana "A new course in 'meats,' which consists of the slaughtering, judging and cutting of meats, is now being offered by the animal husbandry department of Montana State College," says George Severson in the Montana Farmer (April 15). "Assistant Professor E. R. McCall is teaching the class the practical way to slaughter the animals and the correct way to cut up the carcass. He is also giving the class some training in the judging of carcasses. Different grades of hogs, sheep and beef will be slaughtered throughout the quarter to demonstrate the dressing percentage and quality of the carcass. The students do all the work..."

Poison Bait Not Harmful to Stock If materials are handled and distributed in accordance with recommended practice, neither poison bait for grasshoppers nor sodium arsenite dust for Mormon crickets is dangerous to livestock, says Dr. Howard Welch, veterinarian, and Dr. F. T. Donaldson, assistant chemist, at the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, who have written a bulletin covering their investigations. Grasshopper bait, they say, has been used sufficiently to demonstrate that little or no hazard to livestock is involved if the bait is handled and spread correctly. Practically all authentic cases of injury to stock from this cause have been due to carelessness in storing or spreading bait. Care must also be taken in disposal of old bait, caution Welch and Donaldson. They emphasize that burning the bait does not destroy the toxic principle, white arsenic.

Research Laboratories The increase in the number of research laboratories maintained by industrial concerns in the United States during the last few years made it desirable to issue a new edition of the National Research Council's bulletin, "Industrial Research Laboratories of the United States," fifth edition. (Ice and Refrigeration, April.)

April 27, 1938

Civil Service Examinations      The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: unassembled, farm manager, \$2,900; assistant farm manager (dairying), \$2,300; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice. Applications must be on file not later than May 16, if received from states other than those named in (b); (b) May 19, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Commons Describes the TVA      John R. Commons, in the Survey Graphic (May) describes "What I Saw in the Tennessee Valley". He says in part: "America has a natural monopoly of the world's phosphorus rock in Tennessee, Florida and the Rocky Mountains, laid down millions of years ago, allegedly in the bones of giant reptiles. The TVA, at Muscle Shoals, has developed experimentally a huge plant for condensing it from the natural rock, brought down from quarries owned by the TVA fifty miles distant...The rock looked like brown glass and contained 63 percent phosphorus by weight. The ordinary commercial phosphates contained only 16 percent phosphorus by weight, raised to some 45 percent in the form of triple superphosphate now donated to the farmers from Wilson Dam. TVA is not yet distributing the 63 percent product. The cost of manufacture, per unit of phosphorus by weight, is about the same for the 63 percent product as the cost per unit of the 16 percent product, and freight bills would be reduced about two thirds...The scheme of organization (of the farmers) is the cooperation of state and federal agencies. Through cooperation with the Department of Agriculture at Washington and the land-grant colleges, the states already had in their county agents the means for reaching the farmers directly. To these the TVA added qualified assistant agents, specifically to put over the soil restoration plan. The method of experiment is that of voluntary agreement by farmers as farm demonstrators. Already 18,000 of them have enlisted. In most cases the farmer is experimenting for four or five of his neighbors. In others he is experimenting for a whole community, in one case a community centered around a consolidated school. This community elects its trustees, and the women elect their cooperating committee on home economics. The boys and girls have their 4-H Club. Regular monthly meetings are held, their programs made out a year in advance by the committees. Some special subject is set up for discussion at each meeting, such as ter-racing, legumes, livestock, home electrification. Needless to say, these meetings multiply the county agent's influence. What impressed me also was the new life and initiative that has come to these state extension agents through the TVA phosphorus campaign..."

Science Show      Beta Beta Beta, biological honorary fraternity at American University (Washington), is sponsoring the annual science show on Thursday and Friday of this week, with exhibits in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics and psychology. Some of the features will be an aquarium, a wild flower exhibit, a beehive inclosed in glass, an embryology exhibit, a cross-section of a tree trunk labeled to show the outstanding events in the history of science during the last 126 years. (Washington Star.)

April 27, 1938

Senate, Both Houses received a message from the President  
April 25 recommending legislation to abolish tax exemption of  
Federal and State salaries and certain securities; re-  
ferred Senate Committee on Judiciary and House Committee on Ways and  
Means (H.Doc. 603) (pp. 7504 and 7556-7557).

The Senate received supplemental estimates of appropriations of  
\$147,000 for the Weather Bureau and \$150,000 for the Bureau of Entomology  
and Plant Quarantine, fiscal year 1939; referred Committee on Appropria-  
tions (S.Doc. 170).

Mr. Wheeler submitted amendments to the Agricultural Appropriation  
Bill for 1939 (H.R. 10238) as follows: increasing the item for "Forest  
management" from \$638,403 to \$668,403 and providing \$58,350 for the Northern  
Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; increasing the  
item for "Land utilization and retirement of submarginal land" from  
\$2,500,000 to \$10,000,000 (p. 7506).

The Senate Committee on Civil Service reported with amendments S. 457,  
which amends the Civil Service Retirement Act of May 29, 1930, by reduc-  
ing the retirement age and by providing that disabled persons continue to  
receive annuity for one year after recovery instead of 90 days, as in the  
present law (S.Rept. 1645) (p. 7505).

(House, April 25)

The House receded and concurred in the Senate amendment to the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill (H.R. 8837) regarding construction of the Gilbertsville Dam, Kentucky, by a vote of 159 to 152, and further insisted on its disagreement to the Senate amendment regarding Senate con-  
fimation of certain officers whose salary is \$5,000 or more. Both Houses appointed conferees for a new conference on the latter amendment (pp. 7545 and 7556-7559).

The House Committee on Territories reported without amendment H.R.  
9912, to convey to the University of Alaska a tract of land for a fur farm  
experiment station (H.Rept. 2225) (p. 7582).

The House received a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture recom-  
mending legislation to prohibit the unauthorized use of the name or insignia  
of the 4-H clubs; referred Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Rich spoke briefly, opposing the importation of cotton from India  
(pp. 7550-7551).

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Rural Life

The April issue of Rural America contains "The Litera-  
ture of Rural Life", compiled by the Committee on Cooperative  
Bibliographical Aid, Agricultural Libraries Section, American Library  
Association. Louise O. Bercaw, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is chair-  
man of the committee.

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXIX, No. 20

Section 1

April 28, 1938

TO REDUCE  
MEXICAN  
TARIFFS

Summer Welles, Acting Secretary of State, said yesterday that Ambassador Francisco Najera of Mexico had assured him that Mexican tariffs would be materially reduced, probably on May 1. Tariffs were increased in January, in some cases as much as 200 percent. The increase affects principally United States exports. Mr. Welles said Senor Najera had not informed him what categories of products would be affected. At the State Department it is believed the reduction will cover most, if not all, of the products on which tariffs were increased. (Associated Press.)

SASKATCHEWAN  
WHEAT CROP

A Regina, (Saskatchewan) report by the Canadian Press says the first Provincial Government crop report of the season, issued yesterday, says wheat seeding started in most districts in Saskatchewan around April 18, but only about 5 percent of the acreage has been sown. Generally speaking, the land is in good condition, but the weather has been unfavorable for spring work. In parts of the southwestern area there is little subsoil moisture and good rains are needed. Fall rye appears to have wintered well.

CHICAGO CORN  
EXPORTS

More than 1,000,000 bushels of corn were cleared from Chicago day before yesterday for Canadian ports, and it was reported that boats were loading a like amount yesterday. According to local statisticians, actual exports from all domestic ports, including Chicago and Duluth, in April probably will aggregate at least 17,000,000 bushels, making 61,000,000 bushels cleared for Europe since July 1, 1937. There were practically no exports before November 1. (New York Times.)

NORTHWEST  
FARMING

In his annual report to stockholders made available yesterday, W. P. Kenney, president of the Great Northern Railroad, outlined the co-operation the line is giving to the Farm Security Administration in locating farm families in the Northwest. "To bring to the attention of farmers the profitable lands available in Minnesota and eastern North Dakota," Kenney remarked, "the company is conducting an intensive campaign through its agents and by the distribution of literature. The company is co-operating with the Government and it is expected that many of these families will find permanent homes in Great Northern territory....." (Associated Press.)

April 28, 1938

Molasses Silage      "Judging by recently issued experiment stations bulletins, the molasses silage movement is sweeping the country," says an editorial in Farm Implement News (April 21). "One of the most interesting of these bulletins is that from the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, No. 643, prepared by a committee of which C. B. Bender was chairman. It covers a survey of 380 farms in various northeastern states from Maine to Illinois, on all of which grass silage was used in 1937. A 1,000 pound cow producing 40 pounds of 3.5 percent milk needs 2.5 pounds of digestible protein. If fed 60 pounds of alfalfa silage a day, that cow receives 2.7 pounds of crude protein, almost enough for her needs. The costly high-protein grain ration can be cut accordingly. In addition to milk cows, reporting farmers fed grass silage to 3,595 heifers, to 136 beef cattle, and forty-two horses even received an average of 28 pounds daily. Sheep ate it; also poultry. Ten brood sows thrived on it...It is the current importance and the potentialities of this molasses silage trend that inspired us to ask Prof. F. W. Duffee of Wisconsin Experiment Station to write the article that appears in this issue on the machine phases of the movement."

Consumer Cooperatives      "This week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics brought the United States up to date (or as far as 1936 at any rate) on the state of its cooperative movement, when it published the long-awaited retail section of its consumer co-op census," says Business Week (April 23). "There were, according to the Bureau, 3,600 retail co-op associations in the U.S. in 1936. Their total membership was 677,750. Their total retail business for 1936 came to \$182,685,000. The occupational group that bulks largest in the cooperative movement is still the farmer. The farmers' associations which reported in 1936 totalled 1,173. They had 303,899 members and did an annual business of \$111,998,641..."

Teaching of Nutrition      Two workers of the Department of Medicine, University of California Medical School, report in the Journal of the American Medical Association (April 23) on "The teaching of Nutrition to Students of Medicine". "Although it is obvious that the study of nutrition should have a place among the fundamental courses in a medical school," they say, "it has not yet been included in the curriculums of many schools. Just as the study of pharmacology provides basic knowledge needed for the writing of prescriptions, so the study of nutrition should precede and be prerequisite to the prescribing and ordering of diets. Yet, in the majority of medical schools, students receive their only instruction in nutrition in their preliminary courses in biochemistry and physiology. Hence they obtain but limited knowledge of normal nutrition, scant knowledge of dietetics and no knowledge at all of the nutritional states and needs of diseased persons. Realizing the need for an understanding of nutrition, several years ago we organized a voluntary course consisting of fifteen lectures and practical demonstrations on nutrition and diet in disease. So satisfactory were the results that we report our plan for the benefit of others..."

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Senate,  
April 26

The Senate passed without amendment H. J. Res. 573, to amend the act providing for Federal participation in the New York World's Fair, 1939 (p. 7648). This joint resolution will now be sent to the President.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations reported with amendments H. R. 10291, the War Department Civil Functions Appropriation Bill for 1939 (S. Rept. 1647) (p. 7622). The item for preliminary surveys of flood-control projects by the Department of Agriculture was increased from \$3,000,000 to \$7,000,000.

Both Houses received a letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to provide additional compensation for employees killed or injured in law-enforcement work; ref. Senate Committee on Education and Labor and House Committee on Judiciary (pp. 7621, 7677).

House,  
April 26

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs reported the following without amendment: H. J. Res. 659, to authorize an appropriation for participation by the United States in the Third Pan American Highway Conference (H. Rept. 2237) (p. 7678); and H. R. 8177, to create an Alaskan International Highway Commission (H. Rept. 2239) (p. 7678).

Chairman Cochran of the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, to which was referred H. Res. 466, requesting data on imports of canned meats for use of the Civilian Conservation Corps, inserted in the Record letters from the CCC and the Departments of War and Labor denying that such meats had ever been purchased by the CCC (pp. 7676-7677).

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Culkin, "Evil-Smelling Copra", condemning butter substitutes (pp. 7703-7704). Extension of remarks of Mr. Cartwright, "Why It Is Necessary to Make a New Authorization for Roads at This Session" (pp. 7714-7715).

Bills Approved by the President: H. J. Res. 627, making an additional appropriation for the Civilian Conservation Corps for the fiscal year 1939. Approved April 25, 1938, (Public Resolution No. 88). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Farm Fire  
Prevention

The American Red Cross, and the National Fire Waste Council, affiliated with the U. S. Chamber of Commerce will undertake a joint drive to reduce heavy losses caused by farm fires. Average annual loss from fires is about \$90 million in property and 3,500 lives; 4,500 persons are maimed or injured. It is estimated that destruction of farm homes will approximate \$30 million; one farm family in 10 has suffered from accidental fires in the last five years. Copies of a Red Cross farm fire prevention leaflet which describes most common causes of farm fires and preventive precautions, will be distributed to all U. S. farmers through fire insurance companies, life insurance companies and federal land banks. (Prairie Farmer, April 23.)

April 28, 1938

Standards for Body Measurements      Boris Stephen Yane, Standards Section, Consumers' Project, Department of Labor, writes on size standards for ready-made garments, in Industrial Standardization (Apr.). He says in part: "In 1937 money was obtained and definite plans formulated for a scientific study of body measurements, to be conducted under the supervision of Ruth O'Brien, of the U.S. Bureau of Home Economics. The Bureau's project, which is now definitely under way, calls for the measurement of 100,000 children of both sexes at 11 age levels, 4 through 14, in eight selected regions of the United States. There is a possibility that six additional regions will be included in order to make the area covered even more representative. With the idea of using this study to establish an 'American Standard' for sizes of children's garments, a sectional committee has been set up by the American Standards Association. The committee will work under the sponsorship of the American Home Economics Association. The standards for sizes of children's garments and patterns which the committee expects to develop will be based on the results obtained by the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics. A staff of statisticians and trained anthropometrists is supervising the field work of the study... Inasmuch as the children selected for measurement are representative of rural and urban communities in various sections of the United States, it will be possible to analyze differences in body proportions by region and degree of urbanization as well as by sex and age. Thus, if significant differences are discovered, manufacturers will be enabled to adjust their production accordingly. It is expected that analysis of the data will reveal certain key body measurements which will be more effective for sizing purposes than age..."

Raccoons in Indiana

"The Indiana Conservation Department reports that it is having good luck at the Jasper-Iulaski and the Wells county state game farms in propagating the raccoon," says an editorial in Indiana Farmer's Guide (April 23), "and local clubs are invited to participate in repopulating our woodlands with this valuable furbearer. The department is also liberating 14 more white-tail deer at the state park and game preserves in Morgan and Brown counties. During the past four years several liberations of deer have been made in the forests of the southern part of the state and there are more than a hundred of these once-native animals now running at large and seeming to thrive in the woodlands. Since there are no more 'painters' and wolves to destroy the white-tails they may be expected to increase rapidly. As for the ring-tailed raccoons, the trappers will probably see to it that they do not multiply too rapidly."

Quarterly Foreign Trade

Exports of merchandise from the United States in the first quarter of the current year exceeded the value of imports by \$320,737,000, a reversal of the situation which existed in the first quarter last year when imports exceeded exports by \$113,271,000, the Department of Commerce reports. (Press.)